

Bay Area Reporter

VOL. XXIII NO. 35 SEPTEMBER 2, 1993

395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103



"Peace, jobs and justice"

Marchers in San Francisco commemorated the 30th Anniversary of the great Civil Rights March on Washington, Saturday, August 28. Marches were also held in other cities, including Sacramento and — of course — Washington. For details about the gathering in the nation's capital, see page 16.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

U.S. Judge Overrules Military Ban

by Marghe Covino
Capitol Correspondent

SACRAMENTO — On Monday, August 30, United States District Judge Milton L. Schwartz ruled that Pentagon efforts to ban lesbians and gays in the military is unconstitutional. Schwartz cited "illegal prejudice" as the reason for his ruling and ordered the Navy to reinstate Mel Dahl, a sailor who was discharged in 1982 because he is gay.

Dahl enlisted in 1980, was trained as a cryptographer, and admitted he was gay in an interview with officials in 1981 — Dahl stated he is gay but denied engaging in sexual misconduct.

Dahl first argued his own case in 1989 in federal court, when he was a first-year law student at McGeorge. He later transferred to Gonzaga Law School in Spokane, graduating last May. He is now an attorney in Boston. Dahl was relieved by the ruling and said he hopes his 11-year battle to expunge an unfairly given discharge is over.

However, his hope may be premature. The government is appealing a number of court decisions ordering reinstatement of gays and lesbians who were discharged, including that of Keith Meinhold. Last January, U.S. District Judge Terry Hatter of Los Angeles struck down the government's ban and barred the Defense Department (DOD) from denying enlistment to or discharging lesbians and gays. The DOD is

(Continued on page 24)

\$1.3 Million Rand Report Released: No Reason for Ban

by Bill Behrens

The Defense Department on Thursday, August 26, finally made public the taxpayer-funded \$1.3 million Rand Corporation report that recommends allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly in the armed forces.

Accused of deliberately delaying the release of the report by some members of Congress who want the ban lifted, the Defense Department said last week that the report was kept under wraps because it had not been put into final published form.

To examine how best to carry out President Bill Clinton's desire to end discrimination based on sexual orientation in the military, Defense Secretary Les Aspin in April had commissioned two separate studies: one by senior military officials, the other by the Rand Corporation, a private research organization based in Santa Monica, California, with close ties to the military.

Although leaks in July about the content of the Rand report made it clear that the report was favorable to gays and lesbians, it was not officially released until last week. The report's findings, which completely contradict the policy settled on by Clinton in July, again point out that the president caved in to pressure from the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The Chiefs sided with the military's own conservative report, which insists, "Homosexuality is incompatible with military service. The presence in the military of individuals identified as homosexual would have a significantly adverse effect on both unit cohesion and the readiness of the

force — the key ingredients of combat effectiveness."

The Rand report directly challenges those notions. "A policy that ends discrimination based on sexual orientation can be implemented in a practical and realistic manner," it says.

The report advocates a policy that focuses on a service member's conduct and that considers sexual orientation as "not germane," or relevant, in determining who may serve in the military. Such a policy does not emphasize "behavior presumed because of sexual orientation" and "holds all service members to the same standard of professional conduct. It requires tolerance and restraint to foster the good of the group, but implies no endorsement of a 'homosexual lifestyle.'"

Regarding unit cohesion and combat readiness, the Rand report points out, "It is not necessary to like people in order to work with them, so long as members share a commitment to the group's objectives... The experience of analogous organizations such as foreign militaries and domestic police and fire departments suggests that any increase [in disruptions] is likely to be quite small."

The release of the Rand report comes in time to potentially effect the debate in Congress over whether or not to legalize the ban, which currently is just a matter of Pentagon policy. When lawmakers in both the House and Senate return next week from their recess, they will be facing a vote on an even more restrictive version of the military ban than the one Clinton endorsed. This version of the

(Continued on page 24)

Lawyer Tries To Defend City — by Declaring Gay Rights Law Invalid

by Dennis Conkin

The latest attempt to have the San Francisco gay rights ordinance thrown out has been made by a local attorney who was selected by the City Attorney's Office to defend the city, a city hospital, and the medical director of the site, against charges of sexual orientation discrimination.

Attorney Garrett Sanderson of Carroll, Burdick, and McDonough will seek to have the ordinance, Article 33 of the Municipal Police Code, which prohibits anti-gay job discrimination, ruled invalid by San Francisco Superior Court Judge William Cahill on September 9.

Attorney Jonathan Siegal of Eggleston, Siegal, and LeWitter said that the practical effect of the motion, if grant-

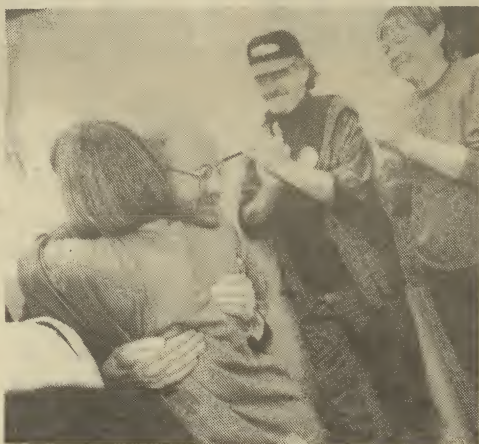
ed, will be to "invalidate the statute for all of the defendants in the case, including the City, and that it would serve as a negative precedent for all such cases in the City." He called the legal maneuver a "a backhanded attempt by the City to declare its own ordinance invalid, while maintaining plausible deniability."

Not true, said Assistant City Attorney Dennis Affertgut.

Sanderson was specifically instructed by the City Attorney's Office not to attempt to defend the city by arguing that state law preempts the rights of the city to make such local non-discrimination laws, Affertgut told the Bay Area Reporter.

But Sanderson, who still

(Continued on page 5)



John Laird gets a hug after his August 31 defeat in the State Assembly race.

Laird Runs Credible Race, But Loses Demo Primary For State Assembly Seat

by Dennis Conkin

Openly gay candidate and former Santa Cruz Mayor John Laird lost his bid for the state Assembly on August 31.

Laird came in third behind front runners Democrat Gary Patton and Republican Bruce McPherson, who will face each other in a November 2 run-off.

The contenders for the post led Laird and six other candidates in the election.

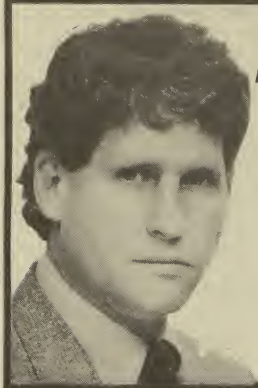
Laird received 15.9 percent of the vote and was never able to overcome the lead held by Patton, who was positioned as a progressive environmentalist during the race and received 23.8 percent of the vote.

"I'm finishing third in a two-person race," Laird told the press after his defeat. "I feel like I ran a credible race. You haven't heard the last from John Laird."

McPherson's success was a surprise to political observers who expected former Pacific Grove California council member Susan Whitman to show a strong finish. She received only 14 percent of the vote.

Only 22 percent of registered voters in Monterey County, and 25.4 percent in Santa Cruz County, turned out for the election for the Assembly seat. ▼

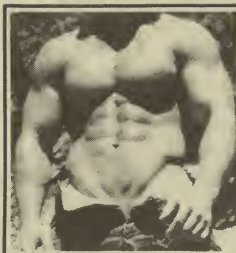
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Community News

Unions Join With Gays To Stop Homophobic Attacks

by I.A. Kisselman

AFL-CIO, the nation's largest labor organization, will consider a resolution submitted by the San Francisco Labor Council, which increases its commitment to support lesbian and gay rights against right-wing attacks, when it meets in convention in San Francisco October 4-7, 1993. At the same time, lesbian and gay labor activists are converging on the Bay Area to present the lesbian and gay labor agenda to the AFL-CIO, and to make plans for a national lesbian and gay labor organization.

The resolution urges local unions to take a leadership role in fighting right-wing, anti-gay ballot initiatives nationwide. The motion states (in part):

"Whereas, the ultra-right wing are among the most vicious anti-labor forces in the land... Be it resolved, that the AFL-CIO National Convention calls upon our affiliated unions to help spearhead community coalitions opposed to these scapegoating campaigns."

In 1983, the AFL-CIO voted to support gay rights legislation "as consistent with the principles of trade-unionism and a person's right to privacy. That resolution motivated hundreds of labor organizations throughout the country to join the effort to secure gay and lesbian rights and put the AFL-CIO's 13 million members on record in support of these rights.

"While this resolution breaks new ground by asking local unions to lead local efforts against right-wing anti-gay initiatives, the resolution itself is a consistent development of labor's historic support of lesbian and gay rights, particularly in the workplace," commented gay activist and San Francisco Labor Council Delegate Howard Wallace, who authored the pro-gay resolution.



The logo for San Francisco's Lesbian/Gay Labor Alliance

The resolution is expected to pick up national support in the coming weeks before the October meeting and observers are optimistic about its chances for adoption.

In conjunction with the AFL-CIO Convention, representatives from lesbian and gay labor groups around the country are convening a meeting in Oakland, of the National Lesbian/Gay Labor Coalition, on October 1, which will plan lesbian/gay labor events during next year's Stonewall 25th Anniversary

Celebration in New York City.

Simultaneously, the Lavender Caucus of the Services Employees International Union, Western Regional (SEIU) will hold a three day leadership conference at the Oakland headquarters of SEIU local 250. On October 3, a reception for AFL-CIO convention Delegates will be jointly sponsored by San Francisco's Lesbian Gay Labor Alliance (LGLA) and the Lavender Caucus of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), which will give lesbian and gay labor activists the opportunity to meet with delegates and leaders from their international unions. It is also certain that lesbian and gay delegates from the various AFL-CIO member unions will be holding caucuses during the Labor Convention, furthering the lesbian and gay presence in organized labor. Both the National Gay Labor Conference and the reception honoring AFL-CIO delegates will be open to all interested participants. For further information, call Vince Quackenbush at (415) 731-7739. ▼

Resolution

WHEREAS, ultra-right wing hate campaigns have been launched in several states aimed at undermining the rights of sexual minorities; and

WHEREAS, these campaigns encourage discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations based solely on a person's sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS, such discrimination robs thousands of our members of their constitutional rights; and

WHEREAS, the AFL-CIO has long opposed such discrimination; and

WHEREAS, the ultra-right political forces are among the most vicious anti-labor forces in the land;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 1993 AFL-CIO National Convention calls upon our affiliated unions to help spearhead community coalitions opposed to these scapegoating campaigns; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge our unions' allies to join us in speaking out against such intolerance.

Ward To Add \$25 Mil to S.F.'s Coffers

by Dennis Conkin

San Francisco property tax assessments have generated a five percent increase — or \$25 million — in the 1993-94 Assessment Roll submitted this week by Assessor Doris Ward to the City Controller.

The total amount of taxable properties in San Francisco is valued at \$55 billion, which will generate an estimated \$607 million in revenue for the City this year.

"I'm delighted with the increase in light of the current recession and loss of value experience by some properties. We were able to produce the additional \$25 million in revenue by capturing sales of properties with old Proposition 13 protected values and by reassessing the properties where construction activity has occurred," said Ward.

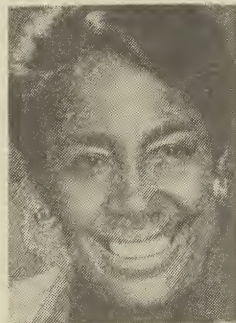
Under Proposition 8, Ward must lower assessments when

they exceed market value — and the Assessor's office has also automatically lowered the assessed value of 3,000 single family residences.

According to Ward, next week the Assessor's office will send notices of value to about 35,000 more homeowners and ask them to compare the assessments to the home's market value to assist in making sure the property is not over-assessed.

Property taxes are frozen at one percent of the assessed value of the house by Proposition 13, with two percent inflationary increase allowance. Current property taxes in San Francisco are 1.5 percent of the assessed value.

The \$25 million in revenues are unreserved funds that become part of the city's General Fund, and are not restricted for use or earmarked for any specific city department such as the Health De-



City Assessor Doris Ward

partment or Department of Social Services.

According to Ward, when the economy picks up, assessment revenues should increase as all commercial and residential property assessment reductions are only allowed on a temporary basis by law.

Ward, former President of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, was recently named the vice chair of the National Association of Counties Taxation and Finance Steering Committee. ▼

New Directors Named for HIV/People of Color Programs

by Dennis Conkin

The National Task Force on AIDS Prevention of Black and White Men Together has announced the appointment of four new program directors of HIV services for gay men of color, including two men who lead the San Francisco-based Gay Men of Color Consortium programs.

"Basically we're just bringing in new talent to meet the needs of gay men of color," said Randy Miller.

Miller, former director of Raifiki Services, a practical and emotional support group for people of color, was appointed NTFAP program director.

The Gay Men of Color Consortium of community-based AIDS service, prevention, and education groups include the American Indian AIDS Institute, GAPA Community HIV Project, Proyecto Contra SIDA, and the Brothers Network.

NTFAP serves as the lead fiscal agent for the group.

Ernest Andrews has become the program director of Health Outreach Prevention and Education Services (H.O.P.E.S.), a program of the consortium that provides case management services. Those services include one-to-one support and counseling for

gay men of color, regardless of antibody status, who have difficulty maintaining safe sex behavior.

Andrews worked for six years as AIDS Education Coordinator for the Multicultural Alliance for the Prevention of AIDS, a program of the Bayview/Hunters Point Foundation.

Carol Yoshimoto, former executive director of the Life Foundation of Hawaii, replaces Miller as program director of EACH, an innovative advocacy model that provides early intervention treatment information for gay men of color.

Tony Glover has been appointed director of The Brothers Network, which provides HIV/AIDS prevention and support services to gay and bisexual men and transgendered persons of African descent. Glover is a one time AIDS discrimination special-

ist for the New York City Commission on Human Rights, and former director and co-chair of Men of All Colors Together/New York.

The service programs are funded primarily through the city's Health Department, the Centers For Disease Control, and Ryan White Care Funds.

The importance and efficacy of culturally-sensitive programs in meeting the needs of gay and bisexual men of color who have, or are at high risk for, HIV and AIDS are well documented, according to Miller.

And, Miller says, a key component of the success of NTFAP and its programs is that the programs are consumer-based.

"The programs are about the empowerment of gay and bisexual men of color and the program are staffed by and for them," Miller told the Bay Area Reporter. ▼

PAWS Announces Summer Get-Together

by David O'Connor

Pets Are Wonderful Support (PAWS) is preparing for an education and networking summit for people with AIDS, as part of the 12th Annual Conference on the Interactions of People and Animals in St. Louis, Missouri, October 7-9.

The three-day conference is sponsored by the Delta Society, an organization based in Washington state that studies how companion animals affect human health and well-being.

The PAWS summit will take place October 7, and will offer participants a chance to share information about developing and running an organization like PAWS.

Founded in 1986, PAWS helps people with AIDS keep their pets when they become

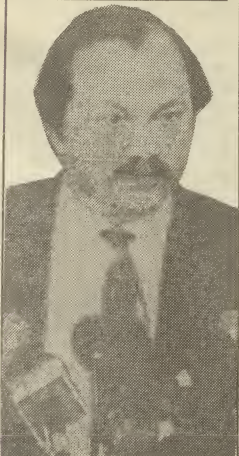
too sick or financially strapped to care for the animals themselves.

Ken Gorczyca of PAWS said the conference will be the first national meeting of people who work in the field of animals and how they can enrich people's lives.

Also discussed at the conference will be the therapeutic involvement of animals with people with disabilities, children receiving routine physicals, abused children, adolescents in treatment for substance abuse, patients in psychiatric hospitals, prison inmates, and people in psychotherapy.

More information about the conference is available by calling (206) 226-7357 or writing the Delta Society at PO Box 1080, Renton, Washington 98057. ▼

Index:



Lon Mabon, executive director of the Oregon Citizen's Alliance, is still fighting for discrimination. The story is on page 12.

Calendar	46
Classifieds	28
Health & Community	5
Letters	7
Mr. Marcus	48
Obituaries	22
Open Forum	6
Out There	34
Personals	52
Reporter's Notebook	10
Queer Watch	27
Sports/Fitness	42
Wayne Friday	9

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California News

Sacto Takes Up Lesbian Health Issue:

Breast Cancer Tax Fund Gains Support

by Marghe Covino
Capitol Correspondent

SACRAMENTO—A key state senate committee has approved a plan to place an additional tax on cigarettes in order to fund breast cancer research. The bill, AB 478, is authored by Assemblymember Barbara Friedman (D-North Hollywood), and would raise California cigarette taxes two cents a pack in order to pay for tests and mammograms for women without health insurance and to fund a \$38 million research project.

The legislation passed in the Assembly and received a 12-1 bipartisan vote in the Senate Appropriations Committee. It has now advanced to the Senate floor, where it is expected to be heard next week.

The legislation will be vital to lesbians, who have both an elevated risk to breast cancer at almost three times the rate of the mainstream population and less access to health care.

Senator William Leonard



State Senator Marian Bergeson

(R-Redlands), opposed the bill in committee because he opposes tax increases. "If the program was so important, we ought to have cut somewhere else in the state health budget to pay for it," he said.

Fellow Republican Marian Bergeson (R-Newport Beach), supported the bill, saying, "this is a critical issue that has to be addressed." She said she believes the benefits of the bill far outweigh concerns over a mere two cent tax. Friedman herself has said that rapidly increasing rates of breast cancer have made implementation of the program absolutely vital.

Laura Opsahl of Friedman's office said the bill has a "great chance" of passing the Senate, and will then go back to the Assembly for approval of final "clean up" language, and "will hopefully be on the Governor's desk by the end of session, which is September 10. Then he'll have a month to sign it."

"The Governor decided not to take a position on the bill until it reaches his desk," she said, "but the administration has asked us to do some preliminary work on implementation which makes us hopeful that the bill will be signed," Opsahl told the B.A.R.▼

Three Jarheads Linked to Porno

...One of Whom Posed Naked for No Pay

United Press International

CAMP PENDLETON — The Marine Corps said Friday, August 27, that investigators have linked three Marines to an Oceanside man who is allegedly involved in a gay pornography ring.

The Naval Criminal Investigative Service announced that it will pursue felony charges against one Marine. That Marine came forward to tell military officials he had posed for some photographs

in the nude, but that he was never paid.

The Uniform Code of Military Justice prohibits members of the Armed Forces from posing nude. The Marine could be subject to administrative or disciplinary action.

Two other Marines also were identified in photographs seized by Oceanside police, but they were apparently both clothed.

At least two of the Marines

are linked to civilian Luciano Ceballos, accused of being involved with the gay porn ring.

Oceanside police investigators — who said last week that as many as 200 Marines may have been involved in the ring — have now closed their investigation. They found no evidence of criminal wrongdoing such as postal violations or pornography involving minors. Only the NCIS is pursuing the case now.▼

Lesbian Murder Suspect Faces First Hearing in Solano County

by Dennis Conkin

A preliminary hearing will be held this week in the case of a Solano County lesbian, charged last spring with the murder of her lover.

Roseann Peterson, 24, will appear at a hearing in Solano County Municipal Court on charges that she brutally murdered Laura Venable, 29, last March.

Venable's decapitated body was found wrapped inside a sleeping bag and buried in a wicker basket in a small grassy utility area on Columbus Parkway in Vallejo on May 20, according to Solano County Assistant District Attorney Robin Keeney.

Venable's body — and her severed head — were so decomposed that identification was obtained from dental records and fingerprints, Keeney said.

The day after the murder, for which Peterson remains

in custody in lieu of \$200,000 bail, Peterson was arrested at the home of a male friend — after the friend returned home from work to discover Peterson standing over the decapitated body of his dog, covered with blood and pointing a crossbow at him, Keeney said.

When police showed up, Peterson allegedly ran screaming from the house, reportedly carrying an object in her hand and threatening them.

She was disarmed by a gunshot to the abdomen. In the melee, a Solano County Deputy Sheriff was also wounded by another officer's bullet.

According to Keeney, Peterson admitted the killing in a statement following her arrest, and said that after Venable had assaulted her with a baseball bat, Peterson stabbed her lover, beat her with the baseball bat,

chopped off her head, and took the body out and dumped it.

Keeney said that friends of Peterson say she was abused by Venable, and friends of Venable say that she was abused by Peterson.

Bay City News reports that Venable's family sought help from a local domestic violence group and that Peterson was described as "an abusive lover" that Venable felt she could not escape.

According to Keeney, Peterson's Solano County Public Defender may attempt to enter a plea of not guilty by reason of insanity to the charges when the case is bound to Superior Court for trial.

But Keeney said he plans to show at trial that because Peterson, however troubled, demonstrated she knew right from wrong by burying her lover's body, she was not legally insane when she committed the murder.▼

Health & Community

Freedom Social Club New organization for gays, lesbians, and bisexuals. Charles Silver: (510) 895-8991.

Marin Hike & Bike Club Labor Day weekend camping trip to Saratoga Springs Resort in Upper Lake County. \$45. (707) 275-9503.

Alternative Treatments for HIV/AIDS Community forum about practical alternatives, including Chinese medicine, chiropractic, nutrition, physical therapy and hypnosis. Sept. 9, 2-4pm. MCC, 150 Eureka. 252-9041.

Gay Masculist Coalition Anti-sexist, men's rights advocacy group for gay men. Write: G.M.C. P.O. Box 590236, SF, CA 94159-0236.

Gay Spirituality Discussion Group Monthly meetings for shared personal experiences. Sept. 6. 7:30-9:30pm. The Parsonage, 555A Castro. 552-2909.

Embracing Our Pride Four-week support and study series for lesbians working on self-esteem issues and sisterhood. \$15-35. Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm, Sept. 7-28. Lutheran Lesbian & Gay Ministry. 553-4026.

Voices of Pride Sexual minority resource center offers support services to queer and questioning youth 23 and under. Social events, counseling and peer support. (510) 530-8529 or (415) 553-4026.

French-Speaking Gays New group formed. Potluck and meeting first Friday of every month. 621-0634.

Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center Classes and Events range from Latin ballroom to quit smoking, legal tools for domestic partnership, and Goddess lore. 175 Stockton Ave., San Jose. (408) 293-2429.

HIV+ Support & Education Programs Different groups for gay men, women, public education forums, couples, family & friends support group, and socials. All groups meet 6:30-8pm, Mondays & Tuesdays. 235 W. MacArthur Blvd., Room 530. For schedule, call: 596-6337.

Taking the Next Step Four-week coming out groups for lesbians, gay men and bisexual people, about friends & family, relationships & intimacy. Facilitated by Jeff Johnson & Phyllis Zillhart. \$12-25. Sponsored by Voice & Vision. 553-4515.

Francis of Assisi Community Subsidized housing facility for mobility-impaired and wheelchair users is now taking waiting list applications for housing beginning Sept. 30. 621-4092 (TT 1-800-755-2929).

Alternative Alcohol Problem Fellowship Tuesdays, 8-9:30pm. 398-6594.

Spectrum Lesbian and Gay Men's Support Groups Reservations now being taken for groups meeting Monday evenings. Eight-week commitment required. \$15 per session. 457-1115.

New Horizons/Rainbow's End Young gay, lesbian and bisexual support/social groups meet weekly. 457-1115 or 457-3523.

Free Self-Defense Classes San Francisco Street Patrol teaches you how to fend off would-be bashers. Sundays, 3-4pm. Collingwood Park, 18th & Collingwood. 985-7423.

Bay Area Young Positives HIV support group for young people of color. Weekly meetings, activities. Every Wednesday, 7pm. 25 Van Ness, 5th fl. 923-0460.

Lawyer

(Continued from page 1)

represents defendants Mary Ann Johnson and Laguna Honda Hospital, is under no such obligation to abandon on their behalf.

Aftergut also said that although Carroll, Burdick, and McDonough had been handling the case on a no-fee basis for the City, the City Attorney's Office made the decision last week to represent itself as a defendant.

"We've taken the case back on our own behalf. We are going to represent ourselves," Aftergut said.

"At the time we called him, our legal team was deluged with other trials. The decision had nothing to do with political issues. The case was likely to go to trial," Aftergut said.

Trial or not, the city's use of an attorney who files a motion to invalidate the HRO — which the city supports — is controversial.

"The city, in other cases, takes the position that Article 33 must exist to protect the rights of gay and lesbian employees, but in this case they

wink at the opposite position," said Pesner's co-counsel D'Vora Tirschwell.

But, Aftergut said, an attorney has "an ethical obligation" to raise standard legal challenges and defenses for clients — unless a client instructs him not to.

The City Attorney's Office has 1600 active litigation cases and 80 of those cases are handled by outside attorneys on a pro bono — or no-fee — basis.

The California State Court earlier this month agreed to hear arguments in a review of a Los Angeles Appeals Court ruling that struck down the L.A. HRO on the grounds that state law preempts the rights of local jurisdictions to make civil rights laws.

Following that Appeal Court ruling, a San Francisco Superior Court Judge ruled in a gay discrimination case that Article 33 was invalid, but that decision is being appealed by City Attorney Louise Renne.

The City Attorney's Office and the American Civil Liberties Union are also filing briefs with the state Supreme Court, arguing that the ordinances are valid and the Court of Appeal ruling should be overturned. ▼

Community News

Beauty, Grace, and AIDS Education: The 1993 Ms. Gay Universe Pageant

by Rene M. Astudillo

Gay beauty pageants, of which there are at least one every other month in San Francisco, have not only become a favorite activity to raise funds for AIDS, but an effective vehicle for HIV/AIDS education as well. During the interview portion, finalists for the "beauty crown" are often asked questions like, "If the man of your dreams asked you on a date and wanted to have unsafe sex with you, what would you do?"

Even before the theatre doors open, and again during intermission, staff and volunteers from various AIDS organizations are quick to go to work to distribute education materials and safe sex kits, and answer questions from patrons who approach their information tables.

There seems to be a keen interest in these pageants especially among Asians and Latinos. Many of pageant contestants come from these communities. So far this year, the following pageants have done their share of entertaining San Franciscans: "Gay Faces '93," "Supermodel of the 90's," "Mr. & Ms. Pacific Friends," and "Mr. & Ms. Gay Asian Pacific Alliance."

The winners of the last two pageants are preparing to



Robert Bernardo and Viktoria LaVoovah, Mr. and Miss GAPA of 1993 (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

compete in the forthcoming "Mr. & Ms. International Friendship Weekend," to be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

On September 11, 1993, the Palace of Fine Arts will be the site of what is probably the most prestigious of these pageants, the "Ms. Gay Universe." At least 30 contestants are expected to vie for the title, currently held by a young gay man from Southern California who competed last year as "Miss Zimbabwe."

The lucky contestant who will inherit Miss Zimbabwe's crown will have to best everyone else in different categories — national costume, cocktail dress, and formal

evening wear — not to mention the need to score high with her answer to the interview question.

Bay Area couturiers are again expected to gain prominent exposure by designing and sponsoring the gowns of pageant contestants. Ito Curata, producer of the event, is himself a noted designer.

While recent pageants have been transformed into a battle of humor and tackiness, the Ms. Gay Universe Pageant opts for more elegance, charm, and wit. "It's our own version of the Superbowl," says one Filipino gay man who has never missed the yearly pageant since it started in the late 1980s. ▼



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Editorial

Read This if You're a Homophobe

We are aware that our enemies read the *Bay Area Reporter*, poring over it for quotes the so-called religious right can remove from context, and for photos that they can use to "show" that we lead lifestyles that are somehow too free. Since we know they are out there, looking for incrimination the way repressed old ladies used to peruse every new edition of dictionaries to see how many objectionable words they could find, we would like to speak to them, now, along with our friendlier readers.

The events around the world — specifically in the former Yugoslavia and in Israel — demonstrate two ways of dealing with the fractionalization of the peoples of this planet: While Israel makes real efforts to accommodate its marginalized population of Palestinians, Bosnia-Herzegovina's various peoples have apparently decided no accommodation is possible and has instead opted for partitioning.

Experience has proven, over and over again, that oppressed minorities cannot be held down forever. No matter how secure the oppressors are in the rightness of their actions, no matter how much better financed, no matter how strong their defenses, at some point the walls of inequity that once protected them will come tumbling down.

Serfs and peasants and slaves and homeless tribes: they all share a history of living in chains, and they have all learned the inevitability that chains break.

Gay people are breaking their chains: no amount of homophobia, no laws, no fire-and-brimstone preaching, can change the certain success of that fight. We will succeed because, like the Palestinians and the Jews before them and the Christians before them, we have a sacred right to exist unencumbered by the selfish rules and wishes of others.

We are excited by the new developments in the middle east, but broken-hearted that the citizens of Bosnia feel they cannot live without walls, whether the old Iron Curtain or the newer partitioning of their country. We also know the partitions won't, eventually, be any more successful than the Curtain was. The world's newfound mania for fractionalization will end, and its current intolerance will fall to a renaissance of nobility. And the same will happen in Colorado, in Oregon, in Tampa, in Cobb County, Georgia, in the U.S. military, and anywhere else bigots try to partition lesbians and gays out of mainstream America.

Walls go up, walls come down. Wall-builders are eventually reviled, and bridge-builders are hailed. Someday the children of those who build walls against us will have to expend the time and trouble to tear those walls down, and will curse those who erected them in the first place.

No resident of America, certainly, can take seriously the sentiment that all people are created equal, and still harbor the sick belief that one way of life entitles one group of people to treat another group the way lesbians and gays are now being treated across this land. It must stop. It will stop.

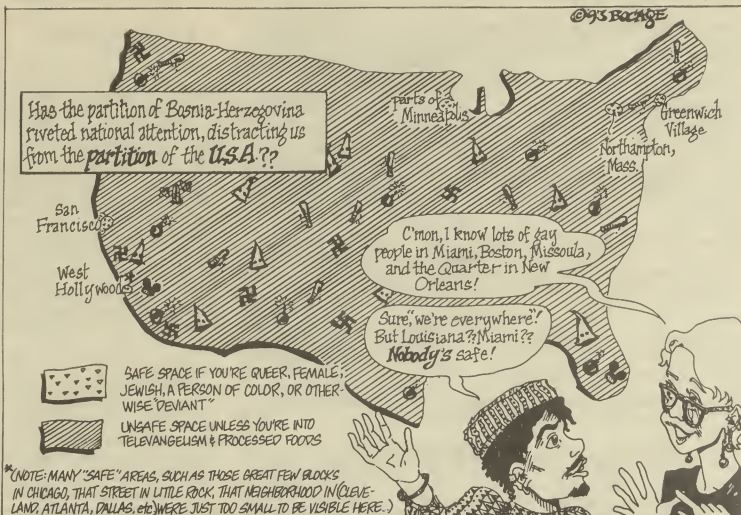
Dream On

In keeping with the rest of this editorial, the B.A.R. is happy to acknowledge the 30th anniversary of the March on Washington that prompted Dr. Martin Luther King's famous "I Have a Dream" speech. Like the Declaration of Independence, we think it is a remarkable piece of writing, worthy of reading and re-reading: that's why we are reprinting it. We would urge everyone reading this, whether friend or foe, to turn to the center pages of this section to read it again.

It is, unfortunately, still just a dream. But considering how much effort has been put into squelching it, we suppose it is also *fortunately* still a dream.

We would also like to wish a happy Labor Day to readers and our friends in the unions. As we report in this issue, the AFL-CIO is lining up with us to help fight the new wave of partitioning wrought by the crazy and craven fundamentalists. We appreciate the support, which shows in a concrete way what our enemies try to hide: the average U.S. citizen is basically honorable, and supports the right of everyone to live privately, unencumbered by anybody else's irrelevant credos.

Have a great holiday this weekend. ▼



Guest Opinion

A Socialist Perspective on Gay Rights

by Clara Fraser,
Founder and editor, *Freedom Socialist*

I have never been able to fully grasp the hatred and terror that certain whites display toward human beings of other skin colors.

Nor have I ever really fathomed the brutishness of so many males toward women.

And I am always appalled by the hysteria of deranged straights on the matter of homosexuality.

Sure, I understand — I hope — the economic and social roots of these maladies. The cause lies in the history. Still and all, unreasoning bias continues to astound me, perhaps because nothing in my experience lends any credence to the garbage spewed by bigots.

Most of my best friends, for example, are gay. In 70 crowded years of meeting people, I've never encountered a group with such a high degree of creativity, talent, intelligence, wit, literacy, social sensitivity, compassion, good humor, and capacity for commitment. And all of this together spells leadership.

Gay people aren't handed these sterling qualities with their birth certificates, of course. They accumulate virtue the same way every other group of oppressed people does, through surviving and surmounting the hand they are dealt.

The differently-sexualized are less wedded to the sick popular culture and more attuned to reality. They tend to be respecters of persons and easy collaborators. I trust my life to my lesbian and gay cohorts — at home, at hostile meetings, in dangerous demonstrations, and on picketline eruptions.

I would totally trust my life to them in the Army.

And I would run like hell from the queer-bashers and forked-tongued demagogues that this society spawns. That is why I think that nothing less than sweeping revolution is demanded — or how else can we carve out the new cultural environment and psycho-sexual services capable of rehabilitating the Ramboite, fundamentalist pathologicals?

But meanwhile there is much to be learned from the tempest over gays in the armed forces — a furor which Bill Clinton's dishonorable compromise will not even begin to quell. The uproar reveals three aspects of the sexual minorities issue that have nothing to do with prejudice and everything to do with establishment politics, military depravity, and the pivotal place of the traditional monogamous family in the machinery of capitalism.

"Our new Prez is as treacherous on civil rights as he is on the economy, stupid."

1. Will open gays endanger "national security"? Let's hope so.

The generals argue that their bailiwicks were never designed to be conductors of social change. Indeed not.

The military juggernaut exists to protect the "American way of life" — which depends on bitter feuding among workers. What's good for General Motors is very, very bad for non-males, non-whites, non-Christians, non-citizens and other non-conventionals (like my readers). The business of big business is isms — classism, sexism, racism, ageism, heterosexism. And the business of the armed services is defending big business.

Proletarian solidarity is verboten. It is dangerous to officers and orders. And now that blacks and women are entrenched in the ranks, somebody has to remain excluded or inferior

(Continued on page 26)

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Letters

Campaign Vet

As one of the four veterans who gave six weeks of our lives on the "Tour of Duty" bus tour promoting equal treatment for gays and lesbians in the military, you may be interested in my comments on your recent article, "Campaign for Military Service: Decamping After Six Months."

I am an Army veteran of World War II and I am 75 years old. Most of your readers have probably heard about conditions and treatment of gays and lesbians 50 years ago, but living in those times is quite different from hearing or reading about it. I believe that the treatment and attitude toward us 50 years ago was the same as it had been for centuries, that is, hatefully negative.

We carried our campaign through the most backward, most homophobic areas of America. I never deceived myself into believing that we had converted vast numbers of the citizens of these areas into supporting our issue, but, except for scattered hecklers, we were generally well received and, to my knowledge, we never received anything but positive and supportive media coverage wherever we went. I'm sure that in many, if not most, of our stops, people who believed they had never seen or heard a real "homosexual" were impressed favorably with the four of us.

The Human Rights Campaign Fund had originally opposed involvement in the military issue and joined the action only at the last minute, raising huge amounts of money which was used to add their voice to the others urging us to write letters to our legislators. The National Gay/Lesbian Task Force was an early advocate of equal treatment of gays and lesbians in the military through its Military Freedom Project. But it was considered necessary to form a special, ad hoc organization, CMS to concentrate exclusively on this issue.

In addition to the centuries-old prejudices against homosexuality and the institutionalized homophobia in the military services, CMS was faced with misguided anti-military feeling and just plain indifference in the gay community. We were just as naive as our fledgling president in thinking that by simply signing an executive order, all of the above obstacles would suddenly evaporate.

We lost. But our loss can be the foundation for a new and more effective campaign for our equal treatment if we learn from our failure.

If we are 10 per cent of the population, or if we are 3 percent of the population, we should have numerous openly gay and lesbian officials in public office. Yes, we have friends at all these levels, but where were these friends when we needed them on the military issue?

The Campaign for Military Justice, under the direction of one of our true leaders, Tom Stoddard, was successful in bringing our issues to the attention of every American for the first time. We are no longer a silent minority. We are no longer invisible.

Herb King
Vista, California

Those Vaccinations Again

Jerry Rosco's article on the World Health Organization's anti-smallpox vaccine as a possible cause (or trigger) of AIDS provides valuable coverage of an important story which the U.S. press has generally seen fit to avoid. This possibility, reported on the front page of *The Times* of London, provides a possible explanation for the high incidence of AIDS in Brazil, Haiti and certain African states (but not others). I do not believe it can explain why AIDS hit gay America so severely (but not straight America or Europe). Even so, Rosco may be on the right track.

Just as AIDS in Africa was immediately preceded by a smallpox vaccination campaign, AIDS in America was immediately preceded by an experimental hepatitis-B vaccination campaign targeted specifically at promiscuous gay men in six urban centers.

The gay hepatitis-B experiments continued from 1978 to 1980, supervised by the Centers for Disease Control, the National Institutes of Health and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. A number of big pharmaceutical companies also participated, some of which were also involved in the U.S. Army biowarfare program. A few months after the beginning of the experiment, KS began to show up in gay men. Six months after the experiment ended, the first official reports of AIDS began to be published.

Critics of mass vaccinations have long maintained that it can severely depress the immune system. And history has provided many instances of tainted vaccines leading to mass illness. Could it be that two, more or less synchronous campaigns, mounted by large, powerful politico-medical institutions, contributed to sudden outbreaks of severe immune deficiency among Africans and American gay men?

Anyone interested in these questions should read Dr. Alan Cantwell, Jr.'s book *Queer Blood* (Aries Rising Press), which convincingly connects the two inoculation programs to the sudden outbreak of AIDS in two distant groups.

Ian Young
Banff, Alberta, Canada

An Important Day for All of Us

When Congress reconvenes on Tuesday, Sept. 7, it will very quickly vote to codify a Congressional version of the Clinton "Lie and Hide" policy for lesbian, gay and bisexual military personnel. The version of the policy that Congress will vote on would seriously worsen the Clinton policy.

As homophobic California Representative Bob Dornan said, Congress's version is not just an anti-gay ban, "it's a ban plus." For example, it would weaken the "don't ask" provisions of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." It would also eliminate all provisions for equal enforcement of military codes of conduct for heterosexual and homosexual violations, thereby encouraging a vicious double-standard of enforcement to continue.

For these reasons, we do not want Congress to pass its own version of the military lesbian and gay policy. I hope readers will write or call their senators and their representatives in Congress. Tell them that you want them to vote against codification of any version of the anti-gay military ban.

Also on Sept. 7, the U.S. Senate will vote on the confirmation of Dr. Jocelyn Elders as Surgeon General. She is a compassionate and outspoken advocate of honest education about sex and AIDS. The far right is using the entire month of August to mount a ferocious grassroots campaign against her. They will succeed in defeating her unless our senators hear from her supporters. Please write a quick letter to both of your senators and tell them that, as a constituent, you want them to vote to confirm Dr. Jocelyn Elders as Surgeon General.

Letters to your Senators should be sent to U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510. Calls to the Senate: (202) 224-3121.

Letters to your Representatives should be sent to U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515. Calls to the House of Representatives: (202) 225-3121.

Spread the word to all your friends and ask them to do the same. If you have questions, call the Human Rights Campaign Fund (202) 628-4160.

Tim McFeeley, Executive Director
Human Rights Campaign Fund
Washington, D.C.

Blame Congress, Not Clinton

I deeply regret that we were unsuccessful in getting rid of the ban on gays and lesbians in the military, but I would like to explain why I agree with Deam Tomich (Letters, Aug. 12) and Bob Kane (Letters, July 22) that it is unfair for many of us to want to kick Clinton in the ass. Allow me to put this situation in context:

Beyond having some horrible bigots in Congress such as Nunn, Helms, etc., the fact is that Congress as a whole is overwhelmingly unsympathetic to us. Our support comes mainly from a small group of progressive Democrats from a few states such as California and New York — heavily outnumbered by bad guys in both parties. For example, Ron Dellums, Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, argued forcefully for ending the ban. He was outvoted, 43-12 — not even close!

Except for a few small organizations, our community largely sat on its hands, putting very little effort toward lobbying Congress (or sending letters) to support us. Our right-wing opposition, on the other hand, was so well organized, that a typical member of Congress would get mail opposing us — by 100 to 1!

Therefore, under the circumstances, had Clinton signed an Executive Order ending the ban, inevitably he would be immediately and overwhelmingly overturned by a vote of Congress — and to top it off, likely a total and permanent ban would become law. Accordingly, Clinton would have cut off his nose to spite his face, knowing that he had not the slightest chance to prevail. We would, likewise, have gone from the frying pan into the fire, had Clinton taken the "courageous" position.

I only hope that a better day will come, in which we will be far more effective and that Congress will be much more sympathetic. But we cannot ignore reality regarding the position that Clinton was in, as a result of our weakness.

Neil Dick
New York, NY

Closed and Yet so Far

With attendance in local Catholic churches dropping, the ultimate decision by the archdiocese is to start closing what it considers to be obsolete parishes.

Now, because of the the disastrous fire at the Dolores St. Baptist Church, Dignity again finds itself without a home. This would be the time for the archbishop to come forward and to offer his so-called christian love, support and understanding to a disenfranchised group of Catholic gay men, lesbian women, their friends and families.

At one time, when meeting in Catholic Church property, Dignity had become a very viable and supporting entity of those parishes. Now, it is the non-Catholic denominations who have come forward to offer us space, love and support. Says a lot about your christian love, doesn't it? Shame!

James L'Heureux
San Francisco

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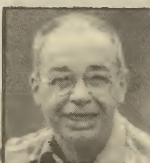
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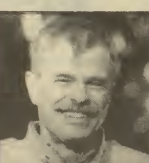


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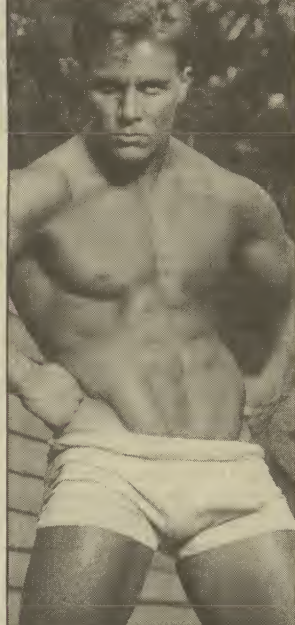
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Letters

Blacks in The Chicago March

Regarding your recent article, "Black Lesbians and Gays Get To March in Chicago - Finally."

This is a brief note to acknowledge your coverage of an event that highlights black lesbian and gay activism. All too often, the white gay male dominated press overlook routine and not-so-routine matters in our lives as black gays and lesbians.

The well-written article by Kimberly Griffin is to be commended. Keep up the good work.

Skye Ward
Oakland, CA

Corruption of Authority

I need to comment on the Book Briefs review of the book called *More Than Me* by Isana Mada Crace Dhyana. I feel I have a right and an obligation to comment since it was mentioned that Ms. Dhyana is a real thing, and was a student of Da Free John.

I was a student in the Community of Da Free John for 10 years up to 1993 as a closeted lesbian. I have to write this letter anonymously for fear of reprisal from the "Free Daists." I would simply like to mention that when a person puts on a self-appointed mantle of guru, and holds a captive audience becoming the absolute and exclusionary source of wisdom and authority, every kind of human abuse and aberration is rationalized by students or devotees.

I would hold Ms. Dhyana suspect as well as Da Free John because no matter how profound the quality of the wisdom they learned and inherited and teach without going into detail, I can vouch that such absolute authority can be insanely corrupting to the guru.

Da Free John has for several years now, had an exclusionary policy toward people with HIV, the poor and others, although his teaching tries to claim otherwise.

One man who was dying of AIDS (now gone) had to threaten to sue that community before he was allowed back in after already devoting 20 years of his life to Da Free John! What is shocking is that his friends who are HIV positive remain on the outskirts of the community, still begging for scraps of recognition even though they have been effectively excommunicated by big pope Da!

I would passionately and compassionately suggest that my fellow gay sisters and brothers beware and look into the literature on gurus and cultic phenomena before getting too involved and finding it is too late. A book that just came out is *The Guru Papers: Masks of Authoritarian Power* by Diana Alstad.

Name Withheld By Request

Whither the Good Samaritans?

The following parable was found tucked away in the back of my Bible:

A certain gay man was on his way to the beach. He fell into the hands of Catholic, Baptist and Evangelist robbers who beat him and left him for dead.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff came hurrying by, never looking at him because they were too busy doing man's work: fag killing and skirt chasing.

Sam Nunn came by, looked at the gay man and gave him several kicks to the head and back before going to do the Senate's business.

Then came Bill Clinton who shook his head soulfully because of the gay man's plight, and stepped gingerly over the body and went his way.

The gay man died hours later in the road.

The moral of the story is that Queers better stop looking for a Good Samaritan in a society as choked with hate and bigotry as this one is.

Richard A. Gleissner
Falls Church, Virginia

Mr. Portland Drummer '93 Established

It was not our intent to rock the boat.

It is interesting that people who volunteer their time and efforts are viewed as having no value; that whatever the service. If it is not paid for, then it is not worth anything. As the sponsor of the 1993-94 Mr. Northwest Drummer contest, CLUB Calgary has done nothing but reward its volunteers in good conscience.

After the collapse of the local contest in Portland, Oregon, every effort was made to find someone to represent Portland as an invitational contestant for the Mr. Northwest Drummer Contest in Calgary on July 17. Several inquiries resulted in a volunteer stepping forward to be present in Calgary, at his own expense and initiative and with no sponsorship.

As Portland is slated to hold the 1994 Mr. Northwest Drummer regional contest next year, CLUB Calgary felt that it would be advantageous to have someone represent the Portland community in the coming year.

Under *Drummer Magazine* precedence of granting titles in areas of contest and contestant absence, CLUB Calgary recognizes Mr. "Madd" Max Webster as Mr. Oregon Drummer '93, with the hopes that his year with the title will result in the success of the Mr. Northwest Drummer '94 regional contest to be held in Portland.

Don Bastian, Mr. NW Drummer '91
Chair, Mr. NW Drummer
Organizing Committee
Calgary, Canada

All She Needs is a Good Leather Woman

Many lesbians and gay men came out in college by siding up to members of the Gay Students' Union and breathlessly informing them that we were working on a paper for a class. What books should we read? Could we get an interview? How about an opportunity for some, uh, participant observation?

As a leatherdyke of a certain age, I have observed a similar phenomenon among the future perverts (although it's not nearly as cute). A well-intentioned activist (usually, though not always, female) stumbles upon some bondage photos or *Nine and a Half Weeks* and gets terribly excited. Unable to simply do the decent thing and jack off in the privacy of her dorm room, she storms off to rid the world of rape, sexism, *On Our Backs* magazine, and anything from hardware catalogs to Gauntlet ads that features clothesline or a pierced nipple.

It's the only way she can stay close to (and collect) SM material without being tarred by the black leather brush. Anti-porn "feminists" are so obsessed, they can quote chapter and verse from the stuff that they allegedly despise. One is reminded of homophobic Christian fundamentalists, poring over their home movies of gay pride marches, evincing more interest in the bare buns and leather accessories than is felt by the people who actually marched partially nude with chrome studs a-twinkle. It's got to be a fetish. Who do you think has the biggest porn library in the world, Andrea Dworkin or the bishop of Rome?

Of course, at least half of these women wind up coming out into SM. It makes perfect sense. If you are indifferent to bondage and discipline, you can simply walk past the hide-bound porn and buy another sequel to *Heretica* or anything by Tee Corinne. The only people who want to trash kinky books are folks who are disturbed by their own wet-and-nasty response to this material. Disgust is the flip side of fascination.

I propose that we call this the Deb Peifer Syndrome. This is after reading not one, but two, formulaic and drab anti-S/M "book reviews" by Peifer in your Aug. 5 issue. These pieces were actually just shrill rants about her own sexual prejudices. I don't have any problems with these books getting negative reviews. *Tell Me What You Like* is not a very good mystery, and *Different Loving* is self-important and badly-written. But I object on principle to any author getting the shitty end of Peifer's computer keyboard just because the girl has a bee in her G-spot about "the holiest leather women ever" and "offensive ... anything goes" sex liberals.

To date, Peifer has only attacked sexuality that she finds objectionable. How chicken. Those readers who have not yet been led "down the glorious path to consensual abuse" are probably eager to know exactly what kinds of pleasure "the holiest book reviewer ever" sanctions. Pray tell what, if anything, does Peifer do to get herself or a girlfriend off that is not tainted by secular humanism, the ACLU, the foibles of polymorphous-perverse gay men, or dykes who own sweater clips but no cardigans? We've seen the long, quivering, sweaty, passionate finger that Peifer points at everyone else. Now we'd like to know where the five fingers on the other hand have been.

I'm laying 10 to 1 odds that Peifer joins the Outcasts or starts attending QSM classes within the year (under a very heavily guarded pseudonym, of course). Anybody want to take me up on it?

Pat Califia
San Francisco

Ed. Note: "All that ole bull-dogger needs is a good man to show her what she really wants." Remember that infamous line of reasoning? Ms. Califia's letter merely replaces "bull dogger" with Peifer and "man" with "leather woman." The argument plays as well in the latter instance as the former. The lady doth protest too much, methinks.

Universal Access

I have been an AIDS Walk San Francisco volunteer for the past three years; the walk last month in Golden Gate Park proved to be an even greater success than previous walks. The AIDS Walk is a wonderful annual event, affording deep satisfaction and joy to walkers, their sponsors and to the army of volunteers. Everyone involved in organizing this multimillion-dollar fundraiser can feel proud to be able to help in the control of a deadly and horrible disease.

But I feel that all the sick in this country, not just those suffering from HIV disease, need access to the U.S. medical system, one of the finest in the world. The only practical way to achieve universal access to health care is for our government to pay for everyone's health insurance. The U.S. is one of the few industrialized countries that does not provide such insurance to all its citizens. We now urgently need the single-payer system which has been used successfully in Canada. Canadians are certainly not ready to give up the excellent system which provides universal access to decent medical care; every Canadian can rely on good medical care whenever it is needed.

Profiteering in our country by the corporate health insurance providers must stop. Health care is the right of every American.

Medical care should not be a source of huge and uncontrollable profit which benefits only greedy insurance companies and greedy doctors.

Mrs. Constance E. Kuruppu
San Francisco

Wayne Friday

The Governor's Race Heats Up

Those Kathleen-Brown-for-Governor backers who have been quietly hoping that State Insurance Commissioner John Garamendi would eventually back out of the race for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination—in favor of keeping his “sure” present job—can forget about it.

Garamendi, the 43-year-old insurance boss and former state senator from the Sierra foothills, all but made his candidacy in next year's primary official during a breakfast meeting with southern California political writers last week, and left no doubt he is eager and willing to take on the highly-financed State Treasurer Brown next June for the right to face incumbent Republican Pete Wilson in the '94 general election.

Promising to work for basic reform of many state programs and to create a California “renaissance” that would make the state a model multi-racial society, Garamendi says that California “is on the wrong path and in desperate trouble” under the administration of Pete Wilson. Although not making his expected candidacy official (a formal announcement will come later, he says) Garamendi said he could not envision any circumstances under which he would not become an official candidate.

The meeting with political writers seemed designed to put aside persistent rumors that Garamendi was reportedly considering foregoing what most observers see as an uphill race against Brown, who has consistently run well ahead of the Insurance Commissioner in both public opinion polls and fundraising. As of June 30, Brown, a proven fundraiser, reported having \$3.5 million cash on hand for her campaign, while Garamendi reported having \$585,000; nevertheless, Garamendi told reporters this week that he is “serious” about running and hopes to raise \$5 to \$6 million for his battle against Brown.

Blaming Wilson and the GOP for most of the state's woes, Garamendi said the Republicans have failed to enforce laws against hiring illegal immigrants because they favored “a cheap labor policy.” He also said he'd seek fundamental reform of education, health care, transportation, and economic development in the state if elected.

Garamendi, the state's first elected insurance chief, described insurance companies and other special interests as “pigs at the trough” that must be put on a leaner diet. Considered a “moderate” politically, he is recognized as a polished, experienced campaigner and has convinced political writers he's in it to win.

John Garamendi indeed makes an attractive candidate and Brown, despite her current standings, would be foolish to take this man lightly; the Democratic race for the gubernatorial nomination could turn out to be very interesting. The question is, could a knockdown, drag-out battle with Brown for the nomination next June produce just what Pete Wilson and the Republicans are secretly hoping for—a fractured Democratic party without enough time to heal its



John Garamendi

wounds before the November general election?

People and Politics

In a feature story by the *Los Angeles Daily News*, reprinted by dailies around the state, headlined “L. A. Gays Gain Political Prominence” we are told that the city to the south, due in large part (so says the *Daily News*) to the week-long demonstrations against President Clinton's “don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue” policy on gays in the military, signifies what “many see as Los Angeles's emergence as the new center of the gay and lesbian rights movement in the United States.” Really?

The *Daily News* story points out that “San Francisco's gay community has placed its major focus on the AIDS epidemic” while Los Angeles, with the political ap-

Commentary

pointments being made from its gay and lesbian community, particularly by its new Republican mayor, seems to have (according to the *Daily News*) taken the lead in gay and lesbian rights. Could be, but not from where I sit.

While I'm only too pleased to learn that gays and lesbians are gaining “political prominence” in Los Angeles (and anywhere else this might be happening) I am equally as pleased that the Los Angeles press recognizes San Francisco's gay and lesbian community for placing its “focus on the AIDS epidemic,” something all cities, everywhere, should be doing. It is not only good, but great, to see that Los Angeles, as well as other cities such as Boston, Washington, New York, Seattle and others are finally granting the gay and lesbian community its long overdue “political prominence,” but San Francisco has nothing at all to apologize for in that department. Indeed, I am convinced that Harvey Milk smiles on us every day.

While the state GOP is busy trying to find a credible candidate to run against Senator Dianne Feinstein next year (the only declared challenger the Republicans have so far is the homophobic ex-Representative William Dannemeyer) Feinstein is busy raising re-election funds across the state, with much of it expected, again, from gay and lesbian and women's groups; two Republican House members—Chris Cox of Newport Beach and multi-

millionaire freshman Michael Huffington of Santa Barbara—are said to be considering a run at Feinstein.

Meanwhile, Bruce Herschensohn, the arch-conservative television commentator that lost to Barbara Boxer last year, is said to be “seriously” considering a run for the 47th congressional seat if incumbent Cox declares against Dianne.

Say what?? Acting Army Secretary John Shannon has been placed on administrative leave and will appear before a judge next month on charges of shoplifting; what is the top Army civilian official accused of lifting, you ask? Why, a woman's skirt and blouse, of course! (Does Sam Nunn know about this?)

Meanwhile, the Miss America Woman of Achievement Award will be presented next week to Mary D. Fisher, the HIV-positive daughter of millionaire checkbook Republican Max Fisher; it was Mary Fisher who gave one of the only decent speeches at last year's Republican convention. The \$50,000 grant (which will be donated to the Family AIDS Network) was given at the request of Leanza Cornett, the current Miss America and a worker in the fight against the epidemic.

Assessor Doris Ward's office announced last week that the 1993-94 Assessment Roll has increased by five percent over last year, representing about 25 million additional tax dollars generated for the City over last year's collections, showing somebody in the Assessor's office is doing a good job; Doris Ward: a hell of a nice lady and one of the city's finest public servants.

And what is Senator Bob Dole up to? At age 70, he is busily running back and forth between New Hampshire and Iowa, the two states with the earliest presidential primaries; while most people sharply cut back their work load (or even retire) at that age, Dole is crisscrossing the country, raising money for GOP candidates, and building up political chits to help him get the 1996 nomination against Bill Clinton. Described even by members of his own party as a man with a “sardonic personality,” and most often thought of as a “hatchet man,” Dole would, if elected, be even older going into the White House than Reagan was when he left. The anti-gay Bob Dole as President? Think about that one for awhile.

Boston police announced last week they will dispatch recruiters to gay bars and gay/lesbian community centers, looking for men and women who want a career in the police department, making it only the fourth city to do so; the others: San Francisco, New York City, and Los Angeles.

Smell a coverup here? The U. S. Marine Corps, in an investigation into charges of dozens of San Diego Marines (many of them “heterosexual”) involved in a porno ring featuring Marines in gay videos (only for money, of course) says that only a single enlisted man may be charged with a felony for posing nude, but claims there remains “little evidence” of widespread wrongdoing” among mem-

(Continued on page 26)

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Mayor Frank Jordan swears in Wayne Friday as Police Commissioner.

Reporter's Notebook

by Dennis Conkin

It's summer doldrums at City Hall, according to **Dana Van Gorder**, Supervisor **Carole Migden**'s legislative aide to Supervisor **Carole Migden**. "It's just awfully quiet around here because it's quiet and everybody's been on vacation," he says. "But things will be cranking up again after Labor Day."

Migden's still in Ecuador — "actually she's vacationing in the Galapagos Islands," Van Gorder says.

"She went on some women's cruise. She's cruising around looking at the animals with the tree-hugger types," he laughed.

Supervisor **Susan Leal** is on vacation still, too. On the East Coast, meaning that she's doing some fundraising for her expected bid for election as Supervisor. Aide **Bevan Duffy** is also on vacation.

And Supervisor **Sue Bierman** has returned from a visit to Nebraska.

Wait until after Labor Day when all the ballot campaigns, like the sales tax and government reform measures, begin.

There were lots of off-the-record Oh-My-Gods and rolled eyes in the marble corridors over the legal strategies of a pro-bono lawyer hired by the City Attorney's Office to defend it, Laguna Honda Hospital, and LHH's director against alleged anti-gay-job bias charges. Although the City instructed the attorney not to have the city's Human Rights Ordinance ruled invalid as part of his defense of the City, the lawyer filed the defense on behalf of the administrator being sued by a gay psychologist who was allegedly constructively discharged. And when my ed-

itor tried to politely ask the lawyer if we could take his photo, he was shuttled through voicemail and then the lawyer's people called our people to say we could forget it. And here I had assumed with a stunt like that, he must have wanted publicity.

Less than a week after **Lester Olmstead-Rose** took over as the director of Community United Against Violence on August 16, he was on *Nightline*, the ABC program moderated by **Ted Koppel**. Olmstead-Rose was up against the **Reverend Amos Brown** of Third Baptist Church about the controversy over **Reverend Eugene Lumpkin**. "I couldn't see Koppel or anyone, I was listening to an audio feed in a studio," Olmstead-Rose said. And trying to get a word in edgewise against Brown, who really does not like the political power of the lesbian and gay community — but agrees that Lumpkin went too far in his comments.

Sad sight last week at the swearing in of **Wayne Friday** as Police Commissioner by **Mayor Jordan**: Candidate for City Attorney **Neil Eisenberg** standing in the back of the room, looking a little nervous and out of place as incumbent City Attorney **Louise Renne** walked by. Eisenberg's not popular in many segments of the gay community because of his pro-bono support of Police **Captain Richard Cairns** on charges stemming from the October 6, 1989 Castro Street police activist confrontation. They also note that Eisenberg lost most of that case when the Police Commission found Cairns guilty of misconduct charges and suspended him from the force for 45 days without pay

for unauthorized use of force.

And, I guess this little item has to be filed in the Only in San Francisco department. After seeing that **Dr. Trogawa Rinpoche**, the renowned Tibetan healer from Chakpori Ling, was going to make a rare Bay Area appearance, I went to pay my respects and took my pal Doug. My curiosity was really piqued because the ad said that the Lama would possibly speak on a Buddhist perspective about HIV and AIDS, the mind, and death and dying. After all, this is the center of the epidemic and more than 12,000, mostly gay, have died here. The talk was co-sponsored by the Gay Buddhist Fraternity and the local chapter of Dharmadhatu — that's an international Buddhist sect whose own bisexual leader, **Thomas F. Rich**, died at the old Pacific Presbyterian Hospital of AIDS under an assumed name. But not before he had unprotected sex and infected a young male student who then infected his girlfriend. It was a major scandal a couple years back.

Well, Dr. Trogawa was a big bust, one-time physician to the **Dalai Lama** or not. He arrived late, his translator wasn't up to speed, and by the time I made my obeisances and walked out 40 minutes into his very boring talk, the Lama hadn't said one word about AIDS or HIV or anything about sex. Worse, he didn't even directly acknowledge the Gay Buddhist Fraternity in his introductory remarks. And, I'd gotten all dressed up in my best Tibetan Buddhist yogi outfit just for the occasion. Come to think of it, why do they call it the Gay Buddhist Fraternity? Aren't there any Buddhist dykes? ▼

A gay in the life. by John Sieruta ©1993



GLAAD Media Watch

Marky's Dirty Underwear

by Al Kielwasser

A few weeks back, GLAAD's New York chapter canceled plans to produce an anti-violence television spot that would have featured singer and model Marky Mark. That decision was made after the underwear poster boy assaulted a record company executive in Los Angeles. The police report filed by the bashing victim stated that the altercation began when Marky Mark "started making disparaging remarks about homosexuals."

Now, several GLAAD chapters are demanding that Marky's designer briefs be replaced with a pink slip. These chapters are calling for Calvin Klein to drop Marky Mark as a model in Klein's high-profile underwear ads, which have targeted gay consumers. The Committee Against Anti-Asian Violence and the Anti-Violence Campaign have joined in that demand.

The recent gay bashing in L.A. is but another addition to Marky Mark's disturbing — and continuing — record of hate crimes. In 1986, Marky Mark attacked a group of African-American elementary school children. In 1988, he served time in jail for assaulting two Vietnamese men.

Racism and homophobia should hardly be "fashionable." Certainly, Calvin Klein needs to re-think his use of Marky Mark as company representative and underwear spokesman. Marky Mark has become a representative for bigotry, a model of intolerance, and the spokesperson for hatred in America.

By dropping Marky Mark now, and telling the nation why, Calvin Klein could send a strong anti-violence message of his own. Write to Calvin Klein, Calvin Klein Inc., 205 West 39th St., 10th Floor, New York, NY 10018, or call 212-719-2600.

Public TV Ignores Lesbian/Gay Public

A new study challenges some old premises in the debate over public television. In particular, the study dispels the myth (promulgated by Right Wing bigots) that the Public Broadcasting System favors liberal points of view and promotes a "homosexual agenda." The findings of this independent, national study appear in the September/October issue of *Extra!* magazine, which is published by the media watchdog group Fairness & Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR).

After examining the types of people who appear as sources in a large sample of public TV programs (1,644 sources, appearing in 423 segments in 114 programs), the researchers could not find a single representative of a gay or lesbian organization. In fact, lesbian and gay activists were totally absent from public affairs programming in the time period studied.

The authors conclude that public television under-represents "slighted constituencies" — including women, people of color, lesbians and gays. In doing so, the Public Broadcasting System has not fulfilled its

Congressionally-mandated mission. That mission, as set forth in a 1967 Carnegie Commission Report, insists that the purpose of public television is to "help us see America whole, in all its diversity" and "provide a voice for groups in the community that may otherwise be unheard."

Contact the management of your local PBS television station and advise them to carefully study the results of this new study. Public television has yet to adequately serve the lesbian and gay public. It's a simple matter of fact.

Write to Michael Schwarz, KQED Channel 9, 2601 Marinella St., San Francisco, CA 94110, tel. 415-864-2000; Danny L. McGuire, KTEH Channel 54, 100 Skyport Drive, San Jose, CA 95110-1301, tel. 408-437-5454; David Hosley, KCSM Channel 60, 1700 W. Hillsdale Blvd., San Mateo, CA 94402, tel. 415-574-6586, fax. 415-574-6299. For more information of the study itself, call the FAIR office, tel. 212-633-6700.

Cobb County: County Oppressed By Bigots

GLAAD chapters across the country have joined with the Cobb Citizens Coalition to launch a national economic campaign against Cobb County, Georgia, after the local government officially condemned homosexuality. The Cobb County Board of Commissioners declared that "gay lifestyles" are incompatible with community values. The board also restricted arts funding to projects or groups that promote "family-oriented standards."

We must combat every attempt to censor our art, silence our speech or shackle our presses. Contact Georgia's newspapers and let your voice be heard! Write to "Letters to the Editor," *Marietta Daily Journal*, 580 Fairground St., Marietta, GA, 30061; "Letters to the Editor," *Atlanta Constitution*, P.O. Box 4689, Atlanta, GA 30302. Also, share your opinions about the impact of hate legislation on local business revenues by calling the Cobb Chamber of Commerce, tel. 404-980-2000.

Utah Board of "Education" Bans Books

The Utah State Board of Education rejected a proposal allowing teachers to use textbooks that provide affirmative and unbiased information about homosexuality. Instead, the board voted to continue the state's prohibition of textbooks that "accept or advocate" homosexuality (California is not much better off, by the way, since our own state law requires that all public school textbooks "teach honor and respect for monogamous, heterosexual marriage").

Obviously, these board members could benefit from a little remedial education in human sexuality, not to mention human dignity. Send your instructive comments to the board's chair, and ask that he share your letter with all members. Write to Grant Hurst, Chairperson, Utah Board of Education, 1893 Terrace Drive, Sandy, UT 84093, tel. 801-538-7500. ▼

The only way to cure homophobia is to confront it! Notify the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, of all defamations or affirmations, and if possible supply us with documentation. Our office number is 415-861-4588; South Bay Hotline 408-235-0229; East Bay Hotline 510-273-9146; fax 415-861-4893. Our mailing address is GLAAD/SFBA, 514 Castro St., Suite B, San Francisco, CA 94114. ▼

And briefly ...

Gay boys frolic at the monthly Roller Underworld in San Mateo. A couple of hundred gawk and a few girls took to their wheels and bared their flesh.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)



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Oregon Supreme Court Clears Way For "Nazification"

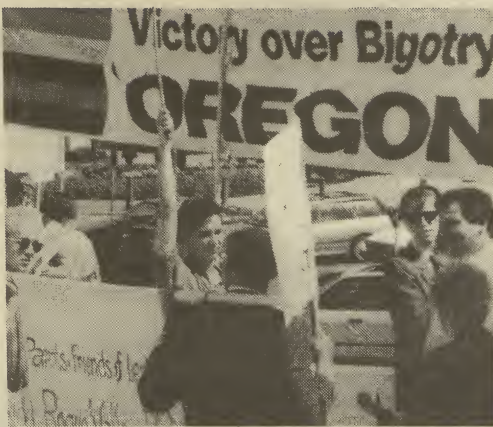
by Inga Sorensen

Two recent court actions have given the Oregon Citizens Alliance the green light in its efforts to pass local anti-gay rights ordinances and a new statewide initiative described as a watered-down version of Ballot Measure 9.

OCA backers may now begin collecting petition signatures to place a proposed constitutional amendment on the

November 1994 general election ballot. The Oregon Supreme Court approved a title for the "Colorado-style" measure, clearing the way for such action.

Opponents of the measure suffered a blow following the court's decision to remove the word "discrimination" from the ballot title (a brief summary of the proposed measure that appears on the ballot and initiative petitions). The



Gay rights activists demonstrate near the Oregon capitol steps while a House Judiciary Committee considers which gay rights bill to send to the House floor.

(Photo: Neil Heilpern)

OCA's original title read: "Amends Constitution: Prohibits Minority Status and Expressing Approval of Homosexuality," but Attorney General Ted Kulongoski concluded that did not accurately describe the intent of the measure. Last month he issued a reworked title: "Amends Constitution: Governments Cannot Bar Discrimination Against Homosexuals, Approve Homosexuality."

Gay rights backers hailed Kulongoski's move, believing Oregonians would be less inclined to vote for a measure that bolstered sanctioned discrimination. The state Supreme Court subsequently removed the word "discrimination," saying it should be avoided "because of the negative context in which that word normally is used." The new — and final — title reads: "Amends Constitution: Governments Cannot Approve, Create Classifications Based on Homosexuality."

"The Supreme Court's action is disappointing because I don't think voters would have felt comfortable voting for something that essentially endorsed discrimination," says John Baker of the Support Our Communities Political Action Committee (SOC PAC), which was formed in response to the OCA's current campaign to pass 33 local anti-gay rights initiatives. "But I also think Oregonians will vote on whether they approve of people being gay. For them, that's the real issue, not 'special rights' or 'discrimination.' I think we just have to keep working on our efforts to educate the public about who we are so they'll be able to make that leap from thinking it's not okay to be gay to believing that yes, in fact, it's perfectly okay."

Although admittedly pleased "discrimination" was bumped for the title, OCA chairman Lon Mabon expressed disappointment that the catch phrase "minority status" — code in OCA circles for "special rights" — was also removed. However, he described the title as a "compromise" that "fairly represents what the initiative says."

Wanted: 89,000 bigots

The OCA must gather valid signatures of 89,000 voters by next July to place its statewide initiative on the ballot. Those on both sides of the issue admit the group will have little difficulty doing so, in light of the fact that nearly 640,000 Oregonians supported Measure 9, an extremely-worded initiative that sought

to declare homosexuality "abnormal, wrong, unnatural, and perverse."

The American Civil Liberties Union has filed suit in Marion County Circuit Court to keep the statewide initiative off the ballot. The suit includes an argument that the initiative violates the U.S. Constitution's requirement that states have a representative form of government. The Portland City Council voted unanimously to join the lawsuit. Portland is one of three Oregon cities that have ordinances prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation, all of which would be invalidated by passage of the statewide initiative.

City officials' concerns don't end there, however. "Larger groups should not be able to deprive smaller groups of their rights of government protection from discrimination," says Portland City Attorney Jeff Rogers.

The ACLU is currently working to persuade officials in Corvallis and Ashland — the two other cities with anti-discrimination ordinances — to become parties in the lawsuit.

In related news, the ACLU is appealing a court ruling in Clackamas County that allows local elections to be held next month on anti-gay/lesbian rights measures. The ACLU filed the appeal with the Oregon Court of Appeals on August 23, arguing a new state law, House Bill 3500, prohibits local elections on charter provisions dealing with sexual orientation.

Clackamas County Circuit Court Judge Patrick Gilroy refused to halt the September 21 elections in Estacada and Molalla, stating the law was not intended to remove from citizens their right to vote on such matters.

HB 3500 says cities and counties cannot "enact or enforce" charter provisions, ordinances, or policies that "single out groups of citizens on the basis of sexual orientation." The ACLU describes the word "enact" as meaning "to make into law." ACLU officials say that should include the act of voters passing initiatives, which, in essence, is "making law."

Political observers and state officials say even if the elections are held and voters approve the anti-gay rights initiatives, the measures will not be enforced, due to HB 3500. If the Oregon Court of Appeals does not intervene, mail-in ballots will be sent to voters in Estacada and Molalla by August 30.

On the flip side, opponents of gay rights are using HB3500 as a way to keep existing anti-discrimination measures from being enforced. Paul deParrie, a vocal anti-abortion and anti-gay rights activist, filed suit asking a judge to enjoin Portland and Multnomah Counties from enforcing ordinances or policies he alleges give special preference based on sexual orientation. Portland's ordinance, passed by the city council in 1991, extends civil rights protections based on sexual orientation in employment, housing, and public accommodations. The suit contends phrases such as "sexual orientation" are code words for "gay and lesbian issues," and that gays have received special treatment by city and county officials.

A hearing date for the complaint has not yet been scheduled. ▼

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Colorado Group Issues Urgent Appeal

by Mike Salinas

Christians must be able to hate, homosexuals should be quarantined and stoned to death, and tolerance enslaves: these are all concepts being taught from pulpits in Colorado Springs.

It's a town where the mayor or openly calls gay people queers; the Colorado for Family Values leader says it is not about God or homosexuality — it's about "who carries the biggest stick" — as he announces a fundraising drive to raise \$1,000,000 to support anti-gay legislation; America for Family Values announces nationwide organization to enact legislation that denies equal rights and opportunity to gays and lesbians, as the Coalition on Revivalism announces its move to Colorado Springs to be near supportive groups — the common objective is a theocracy in America in 20 years. These are all examples of daily events in Colorado Springs.

And there's more: cars are driven off road, a psychotherapist has crosses carved in his hands, windows are broken, friendly business owners and churches are harassed, gays and gay supporters are intimidated and threatened, hate posters are appearing all over town, the KKK is holding rallies, news media are blacking out gay-friendly news. Now the phrase "celebrate diversity" has become fighting words.

But in the face of overwhelming odds, Ground Zero, a human rights advocacy organization of 250 members working in the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community, struggles to survive and to fight the right another day. That fight, and Ground Zero itself, are centered in Colorado Springs, "the Belly of the Beast," home to sixty national and international fundamentalist organizations with more of the same on the way.

Ground Zero organizers tell the *Bay Area Reporter* it is a non-profit (501 (c)(3) pending) human rights advocacy organization seeking to counteract — through education, coalition-building, and community outreach — the religious right's political agenda of intolerance and discrimination, particularly in its attack on gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered people.

Until now, this small group has done miraculous things with money raised locally, from members and from small fundraisers. It has sent out tens of thousands of documents to hundreds of organizations nationally that are fighting similar fights and are starved for guidance and background; produced a radio series on the issues, designed for national distribution on educational and college stations, and a video documentary on gay civil rights just released across the nation; generated thousand of interviews and news articles; debated the devil at every corner; marched; and educated.

But the opposition threatens to overtake this intrepid band with the sheer might of

money and power. Ground Zero organizers say it must grow if it is to continue, and must raise more money if it to be successful.

Numerous projects are planned, including a new video, expanded informational services, a national informational BBS, a major multimedia campaign, but they all are on hold awaiting funding; their combined costs will be in excess of \$100,000.

Donations of any size are desperately sought. Checks and money orders may be sent to Ground Zero, in care of P.O. Box 1982, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80901. Those who would like to donate through their Visa or Mastercard may also write to the same address, including their name, card number, expiration date, and amount to be charged.

Ground Zero's fundraising

plans, somewhat reminiscent of public broadcasting pledge drives, include bonuses available to donors who send over the designated amounts and indicate a desire to receive them with the donation letter:

•A sustaining membership of \$25 or more gets the Ground Zero newsletter and continuing information.

•Those who donate \$35 may ask for *Gay Rights in Colorado: The Uncivil War*, an educational documentary "for the knowing and the naive," produced by John Bourbonais-Ferro.

•A donation of \$40 gets *Secret Lies, Civil Truths*, the one-hour videotape from Gay and Lesbian Emergency Media Committee.

•Finally, those who donate \$65 will get both videotapes.

For more information, call (719) 635-6086. ▼

GROUND ZERO

Form 872-C
(Rev. 1-7-93)
Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Consent Filing Period of Limitation Upon Assessment of Tax Under Section 4940 of the Internal Revenue Code
(See instructions on reverse side.)

Under section 509(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, and as part of a request to organization named below be treated as a publicly supported organization under section 509(a)(2) during an advance ruling period,

Ground Zero, Inc.
(EIN: 80-0901)
313 North Tejon St., 418
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(Number, street, city or town, state, and ZIP code)

Consent and agree that the period for assessing tax (imposed under section 4940) of the advance ruling period will extend 5 years, 4 months, and 15 days beyond the

However, if a notice of deficiency in tax for any of these years is sent to the agent in the advance ruling period, the period for making an assessment will be further extended by the number of days in

days.

Ending date of first tax year: December 31, 1993
(Month, day, and year)

Ground zero has tackled the paperwork to tackle the homophobes in Colorado Springs

Conant Foundation Community Forum

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A discussion by Marcus A. Conant, M.D.

CD8 Expansion and TP5, two therapies intended to use immune strategies to fight HIV infection, will be evaluated using the most current data from ongoing trials. Dr. Conant will discuss how this research is conducted, why they are believed to be of benefit, and what role they may play in managing HIV infection.

Monday, September 13, 1993
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

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Military News

New Shocker in Meholick Case

Expert Opinion is that Court Document Was Forged

by Mike Salinas

The case of Larry Meholick, the former U.S. sailor now serving time at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, on charges he committed forcible sodomy on two shipmates, has taken another strange turn. An expert on handwriting now claims at least one of the affidavits filed by the purported victims may have been forged.

Elaine Senko, an expert with Associated Document Examiners of Arlington, Virginia, examined three affidavits and says it is "highly probable" as "a conditional opinion" that "the same individual who wrote the signature as Joseph DeSantis [the special agent of the Naval Investigative Service who interviewed the three complainants] also wrote the signature and initials as Rick Swenson [one of the sailors who testified against Meholick]."

Senko's extensive background in the field of document examination dates back to 1978, and includes study in five states with such teachers as Felix Klein, a Certified Document Examiner who has served as a consultant to the United Nations. She is schooled in techniques of forgery identification, forensic document examination, and even the "Effects of Medication/Disease in Handwriting."

Senko based her appraisal of the Swenson document on "factors including measurements, initial strokes, termi-



Former U.S. sailor Larry Meholick in prison at Leavenworth.

nal strokes, letter formations, spacing, speed of writing, and other empirical data." She has offered to prepare exhibits "that will graphically demonstrate how [she] arrived" at her conclusion after an examination that covered "conspicuous characteristics (such as) general letter formations, spacing, speed of writing, etc.), but also the inconspicuous characteristics (such as) pressure pattern, proportions, connections, etc.)"

According to Mike Meyer, an activist working for Meholick's release, there is ample reason to suspect DeSantis of forgery: one of the complainants, James B. Jones, admitted on the stand that his most famous statement in his affidavit — "Meholick was trying to fuck me in the ass!" — was a lie. The presiding offi-

cer at Meholick's court martial found that DeSantis "suborned perjury" from Jones when taking his statement.

Meyer told the *Bay Area Reporter* he has brought the suspected forgery to the attention of Secretary of Defense Les Aspin in a 38-page letter. "I never expected to get an answer," he said, and to date, he hasn't.

Meholick's most recent hearing was in April, where his request for parole was denied. According to Meyer, "irregularities in procedure" at that hearing have led to an appeal of the decision.

Unfortunately, the official now charged with overseeing that appeal is the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower and Reserve Affairs). That position has not yet been filled by the Clinton Administration. ▼

Were Meholick's Civil Rights Violated?

by Bill Behrens

Sources close to Larry Meholick, a 44-year-old gay sailor convicted on (potentially bogus) rape charges, say that military officials have begun an investigation into Meholick's claims that his civil rights have been violated during his imprisonment.

The Inspector General at the U.S. Disciplinary Barracks at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, where Meholick is incarcerated, opened an investigation earlier this month, said Michael Meyer, spokesperson for the Free Larry Meholick Ad-Hoc Committees of America. Meyer, who regularly talks to Meholick over the phone, said that among the charges being looked into are claims that privileged attorney-client conversations were bugged and that Meholick's mail has been tampered with.

Glenview, Illinois resident Bob Spriggs, one of Meholick's lawyers, confirmed Meyer's report. "The investigation covers his entire imprisonment, ranging from all of [Meholick's] time at Fort Leavenworth back to Miramar," Spriggs said. Meholick began serving time on his six-year sentence in June 1991 in the Navy Consolidated Brig at Miramar, just outside of San Diego. He was transferred, without being told why, to maximum custody at Fort Leavenworth in February of this year after media interest in Meholick's

case began to swell in San Diego.

A spokesperson for the Kansas facility said she could not comment on the case. "I can't confirm or deny" the investigation, said Janet Wray, public information officer at Fort Leavenworth. "The regulations concerning investigations are very narrow," she said, adding that she would not be able to answer such a question about any prisoner. "Any time an Inspector General from the Defense Department starts an investigation, you've got yourself one hell of a bit of interest in the case," said Spriggs. "This is a very big deal."

The investigation is the result of pressure put on the Defense Department, both by grassroots activists and by members of Congress who have taken an interest in Meholick's case, Spriggs said. "This is a product of putting the pressure on. Thank God for all the pressure."

Meyer agreed. "There's a tremendous amount of mail directed to Fort Leavenworth, as well as to the White House, concerning Meholick's well-being," he said. Much of the grassroots effort on the sailor's case is being generated by the Free Larry Meholick committees, which are based in Washington, D.C.; Fayetteville, N.C.; Kansas City; New York; and Los Angeles. Other networks of activists from Connecticut, West Virginia and Arizona

have also been working on the case, Meyer said.

A decorated Vietnam veteran, Meholick was charged with forcible sodomy in 1989, two months after he exposed a senior officer for embezzling funds on his ship. Meholick admitted to having consensual sex with each of the four men who accused him of rape, but says the charges were fabricated in retaliation for his whistle-blowing.

According to Meholick's lawyers, two of the men who made the accusations recanted their testimony before Meholick's court-martial and a third, while testifying on the witness stand, admitted that he lied and that the sex was consensual. Furthermore, a confession made by Meholick and used against him in his trial was obtained while he was still hospitalized and taking anti-depressant medication because of a suicide attempt.

"He's had his rough times in Leavenworth and Miramar, but they aren't anything compared to the violation of his constitutional rights in his trial," Spriggs said.

The highest appeals court in the military system should decide by September 15 whether or not it will hear Meholick's case. If the court does hear his case and rules in his favor, Larry Meholick could be a free man before the year is out. ▼

Perry and Thrust of Compromise: Watkins Speaks Out About the Ban

by James Tanner

The following is an interview with Perry J. Watkins, Sergeant First Class, U.S. Army, (Retired). Watkins was drafted into the army despite his admission that he was gay. He served this county for 15 years, and when the Army decided to put him out, Watkins took it to court. After more than nine years of court battles, he won. The U.S. Supreme Court upheld the Ninth Circuit Appeals Court decision, requiring the Army to consider him for reenlistment without regard to his sexual orientation, because they had previously allowed him to serve as an openly gay — and in the Army's own admission, "exemplary" soldier.

James Tanner: Perry, you served 15 years in the military as an openly gay man. Would you say you were successful, and why or why not?

Perry Watkins: Yes, I was extremely successful. The primary reason is the fact that I communicated with my fellow soldiers.

People fear what they do not understand. If all they hear about gays and lesbians are rumors, lies, propaganda, and rhetoric, then that is what they will base their actions on. Because people could always discuss with me things that concerned them, they felt comfortable with me. I was able to prevent homophobic activity by making people feel comfortable enough to not see me as a threat, but to respect me as a member of their team, their unit, and even as a friend. Something impossible to do without communication.

How do you feel about the "don't ask, don't tell" compromise?

Obviously, since it severely restricts communication, I do not feel it is in the best interest of either the gay or non-gay service member. We must work to increase communications, not limit them.

The fact that [during my service] no disrespect toward any service member would be tolerated made everyone perform at their best, even those who did not like or agree with my presence. I certainly view [the "don't ask, don't tell" policy] as a step in the wrong direction, particularly since we do not live in an elitist society.

My own decision contained absolutely no compromises, and no other service member should have to serve with compromises. If experience is the best teacher, then all it takes to lift the ban completely is obedience to orders and dedication to mission accomplishment.

What do you believe, as a community, we need to work towards and focus on?

I presume you mean specifically in the area of totally lifting the ban. I think our initial efforts lacked a positive element. Discussing specific areas of concern, such as "barracks justice" and "the dreaded shower room," and offering positive, tried and

proven solutions to these very valid concerns, would lessen the effectiveness of the opposition's fear tactics considerably. After all, do you think bungee jumping would be as popular if all you heard was that the cord broke?

Every bit as much money, energy, and effort should be directed by this community toward the exploration, development, and presentation of the success of being openly gay in the military, as has been devoted to highlighting the failure.

Having had the experience of serving openly gay in the armed forces, what effect do think this compromise will have on those now serving?

Not being able to define yourself within the system leaves people totally vulnerable. To pursue any type of orientation issue under the current policy would cause people to have to defend their personal conduct, even if personal conduct was not a factor. The policy not only requires one to remain closeted, but virtually locks the door behind them.

You are obviously a front-runner in this issue, having won your case at the Supreme Court level in 1990, and yet you seem to have been silent of late. Why?

I've not been silent. I've been speaking at universities and organizations such as the National Lawyer's Guild, the National Association of Black Journalists, and the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights, and of course gay, lesbian, and bi veterans organizations, to name a few. I've participated in pride rallies from as far away as London, England, and served as Grand Marshal, with Miriam Ben-Shalom, for New York City's 1993 parade: things I've been doing since my first rally in Seattle, Washington, in 1982. I seem silent because all of the attention has been on the political front and the people participating in that effort. Since I was not asked to participate, I haven't been heard from.

Is racism a factor in the gay and lesbian community's effort to deal with this issue?

It certainly has been for me. Our leadership doled out credibility, not on the basis of impeccable credentials and unprecedented success, but on the basis of the color of the victims.

To provide a powerful, credible, and convincing argument for openly gay service members, the political and organizational leadership apparently feels that [a history of] living in the closet, earning promotions and awards while passing as heterosexual, (which ceases once the orientation is known) — and presenting the image of "being treated like blacks prior to 1948" when action is brought by the system — is necessary to qualify one to debate.

[My] being openly gay, earning all promotions and awards, never being removed from a duty position, every day of a 15-year career; chal-

lenging the policy for nine years in court; becoming the first gay person in the history of this nation to win approval from the United States Supreme Court to remain on active duty, with no compromises; that seems to have no credibility at all [to gay leaders].

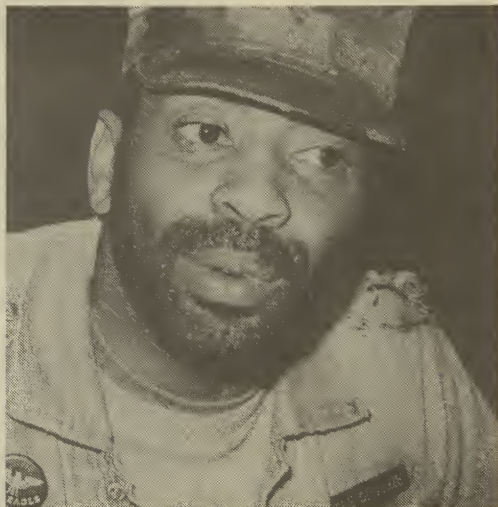
Racism is certainly in no danger of becoming extinct in this community.

Where are you going from here?

I'm writing a book to help people understand what it takes to be a successful openly gay soldier. What being openly gay really means. How to deal with the fears, stereotypes, double standards, racism, and violence. Things that others can only guess about. I actually lived for 15 years. I wasn't in an isolation booth while I was in the Army, and I'm tired of being treated as if the experiment never happened. Simply repeating that we are good soldiers is not an effective deterrent to the opposition. Unless we start dealing with issues directly, offering tangible, proven solutions, we will never make any progress.

Your years in the military proved that people can serve, be openly gay, receive promotions, positive evaluations, etc.

(Continued on page 24)



Sgt. Perry Watkins views the "don't ask, don't tell" policy "as a step in the wrong direction." (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

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Martin Luther King's Dream: Still Deferred, Still Potent

The following speech was given by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at the Lincoln Memorial during the Civil Rights March of August 28, 1963

I am happy to join with you today in what will go down in history as the greatest demonstration for freedom in the history of our nation.

Five score years ago, a great American, in whose symbolic shadow we stand today, signed the Emancipation Proclamation. This momentous decree came as a great beacon light of hope to millions of Negro slaves who had been seared in the flames of withering injustice. It came as a joyous daybreak to end the long night of their captivity.

But one hundred years later, the Negro still is not free; one hundred years later, the life of the Negro is still sadly crippled by the manacles of segregation and the chains of discrimination; one hundred years later, the Negro lives on a lonely island of poverty in the midst of a vast ocean of material prosperity; one hundred years later, the Negro is still languished in the corners of American society and finds himself in exile in his own land.

So we've come here today to dramatize a shameful condition. In a sense we've come to our nation's capital to cash a check. When the architects of our republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir. This note was the promise that all men, yes, black men as well as white men, would be guaranteed the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

It is obvious today that America has defaulted on this promissory note in so far as her citizens of color are concerned. Instead of honoring this sacred obligation, America has given the Negro people a bad check; a check which has come back marked "insufficient funds." We refuse to believe that there are insufficient funds in the great vaults of opportunity of this nation. And so we've come to cash this check, a check that will give us upon demand the riches of freedom and the security of justice.

We have also come to this hallowed spot to remind America of the fierce urgency of now. This is no time to engage in the luxury of cooling off or to take the tranquilizing drug of gradualism. Now is the time to make real the promises of democracy; now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice; now is the time to lift our nation from the quicksands of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood; now is the time to make justice a reality for all God's children. It would be fatal for the nation to overlook the urgency of the moment. This sweltering summer of the Negro's legitimate discontent will not pass until there is an invigorating autumn of freedom and equality.

1963 is not an end, but a beginning. And those who hope that the Negro needed to blow off steam and will now be content, will have a rude awakening if the nation returns to business as usual. There will be neither rest nor tranquility in America until the Negro is granted his citizenship rights. The whirlwinds of the revolt will continue to shake the foundations of our nation until the bright day of justice emerges.

But there is something that I must say to my people, who stand on the warm threshold which leads into the palace of justice. In the process of gaining our rightful place, we must not be guilty of wrongful deeds. Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred. We must forever conduct our struggle on the high plain of dignity and discipline. We must not allow our creative protest to generate into physical violence. Again and again we must rise to the majestic heights of meeting physical force with soul force; and the marvelous new militancy, which has engulfed the Negro community, must not lead us to a distrust of all white people. For many of our white brothers, as evidenced by their presence here today, have come to realize that their destiny is tied up with our destiny. And they have come to realize that their freedom is inextricably bound to our freedom. We cannot walk alone. And as we talk, we must make the pledge that we shall always march ahead. We cannot turn back.

There are those who are asking the devotees of Civil Rights, "When will you be satisfied?" We can never be satisfied as long as the Negro is the victim of the unspeakable horrors of police brutality; we can never be satisfied as long as our bodies, heavy with the fatigue of travel, cannot gain lodging in the motels of the highways and the hotels of the cities; we cannot be satisfied as long as the Negro's basic mobility is from a small ghetto to a larger one; we can never be satisfied as long as our children are stripped of their selfhood and robbed of their dignity by signs stating "For Whites Only"; we cannot be satisfied as long as the Negro in Mississippi cannot vote and a Negro in New York believes he has nothing for which to vote. No! no, we are not satisfied, and we will not be satisfied until "justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream."

I am not unmindful that some of you have come here out of great trials and tribulations. Some of you have come fresh from narrow jail cells. Some of you have come from areas where your quest for freedom left you battered by the storms of persecution and staggered by the winds of police brutality. You have been the veterans of creative suffering. Continue to work with the faith that unearned suffering is redemptive. Go back to Mississippi. Go back to Alabama. Go back to South Carolina. Go back to Georgia. Go back to Louisiana. Go back to the slums and ghettos of our Northern cities, knowing that somehow this situation can and will be changed. Let us not wallow in the valley of despair.

I say to you today, my friends, so even though we face the

(Continued on next page)

Black Gays and Lesbians Made Welcome at Washington March

by Bob Roehr

African-American lesbians and gays celebrated two milestones last weekend, during the 30th Anniversary March of the great 1963 civil rights March on Washington. One was that they were marching as a full-fledged contingent, without having to resort to the sit-in demonstration tactics necessary five years ago; the other was the gala they staged at the Kennedy Center, a musical tribute to Bayard Rustin, an openly gay black man who was the principal architect and unsung hero of the 1963 march. It was the first time African-American lesbians and gays sponsored an event at that prestigious location.

The march itself was, to most observers, a disappoint-

ment. Its sponsors had originally projected a million participants, but scaled back those numbers as the day drew nearer. While some march leaders claimed that 200,000 took part, official estimates put the number at 75,000. By comparison, the 1963 march drew 250,000, then the largest demonstration the nation's history, and the 25th Anniversary March drew a like number.

Charlene Cheatam, co-chair of the D.C. Coalition of Black Lesbians, Gay men and Bisexuals, said, "If it wasn't for the unions there wouldn't have been a march, because a majority of the people were union-organized." She said the union focus on the North American Free Trade Area (NAFTA) Treaty definitely set the overall tone of the day.

"Like it was my march"

She compared this march with the April one for gay and lesbian rights: "Because they had an African-American contingency, that made it (the April march) feel like it was my march. Now in this march, because there was a gay and lesbian contingency in an African-American march, it made it feel like my march. I felt connected to both of them and had my place in both of them."

Cheatam was one of four lesbians and gays to have spoken at the march, but never had the opportunity to speak: The speakers ran so late that before Cheatam's turn at the



Martha Wash

microphone came, the crowd was already moving down toward the main assembly at the Lincoln Memorial and the sound was turned off.

The Kennedy Center musical tribute to Rustin on Sunday night, with a special guest appearance by pop diva Martha Wash, drew about 1,700. It was staged by the Bayard Rustin Commemorative Alliance, an ad hoc group formed only two months prior.

Rustin was the organizing genius behind the 1963 march. His gayness was a source of contention at the time and one faction sought to have him removed from the role of principle organizer. But Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and others stood behind Rustin, knowing he was integral to the success of the march. Many historians share that perspective, calling Rustin's work indispensable.

Cheatam noted the importance of having the tribute at the Kennedy Center, "to have black gays and lesbians come out to their activity, in such a public space was special." ▼

(Continued from previous page)

difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream. I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal." I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood. I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice. I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.

I have a dream today!

I have a dream that one day down in Alabama - with its vicious racists, with its governor having his lips dripping with the words of interposition and nullification - one day right there in Alabama, little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers.

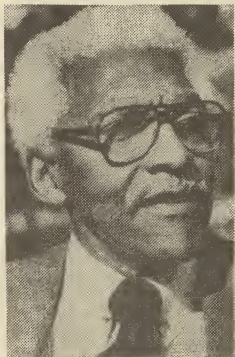
I have a dream today!

I have a dream that one day "every valley shall be exalted and every hill and mountain shall be made low. The rough places will be made plain and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together."

This is our hope. This is the faith that I go back to the South with. With this faith we shall be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. With this faith we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day. And this will be the day. This will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with new meaning, "My country 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrim's pride, from every mountain side, let freedom ring." And if America is to be a great nation, this must be true.

So let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire; let freedom ring from the mighty mountains of New York; let freedom ring from the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania; let freedom ring from the snow-capped Rockies of Colorado; let freedom ring from the curvaceous slopes of California. But not only that. Let freedom ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia; let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee; let freedom ring from every hill and molehill of Mississippi. From every mountainside, let freedom ring.

And when this happens, and when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all God's children, black men and white men, Jews and gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual: "Free at last. Free at last. Thank God Almighty, we are free at last." ▼



Gay civil rights leader Bayard Rustin

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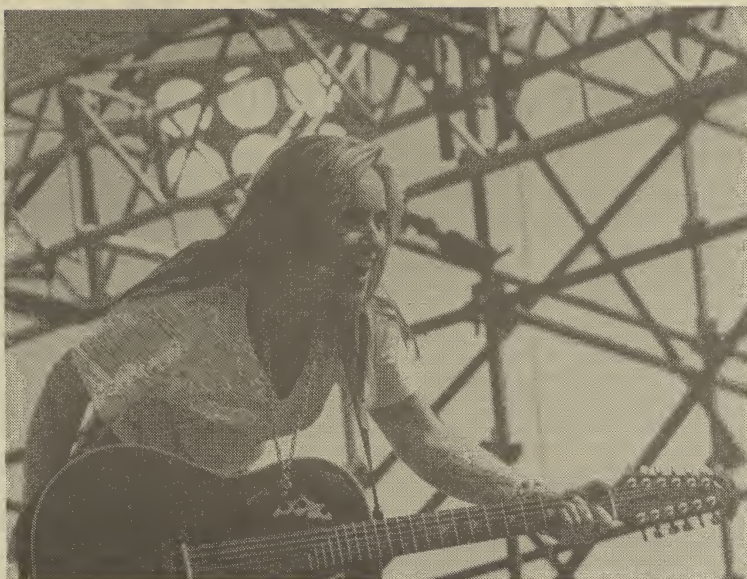
A clarithromycin/Ethambutol regimen containing Rifabutin (900 mg.) or Rifabutin (600 mg.) or Placebo for the treatment of MAC. Projected to start: August 15, 1993.

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For more information about these and other studies contact the HIVCare Client Coordinator at (415) 353-6215. HIVCare is a program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde Street, San Francisco.

Profile



Lesbian rocker Melissa Etheridge wows 'em during her performance at the 1993 March on Washington
(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

Melissa Etheridge Sings Out

by Karen Ocamb

Melissa Etheridge is sky-rocketing to major rock and roll stardom. In 1992, she won the Grammy for Best Female Rock Performance. She headlined an all-star cast during the Clinton Inauguration.

And now she is getting top billing for the September 4 AIDS special on ABC called *In a New Light '93*, where she will sing "Silent Legacy," a powerful song about teenage sexuality. The song, her personal favorite, is from her new "Yes I Am" album due out in October.

Though Etheridge says she has always been openly gay, she has never talked about it publicly. Until this exclusive interview for the *Bay Area Reporter* and the *Lesbian News*.

Besides k.d. lang, Etheridge is the most prominent American crossover rock star to be openly lesbian. Her debut album "Melissa Etheridge" (1988) garnered rave reviews and went platinum — selling over one million copies. Her next two albums "Brave and Crazy" (1989) and "Never Enough" (1990) earned her gold records in the United States. All three albums went platinum worldwide.

Just her attendance at the lesbian and gay Triangle Ball during President Clinton's Inauguration was an event — especially since she was much in demand by the MTV "Rock The Vote" crowd and had performed for the Clintons with such music giants as Aretha Franklin.

So Etheridge's "official coming out" was a surprising moment. When gay favorite, TV-horror hostess Elvira, Mistress of the Dark, lamented to the black-tie revellers at the Triangle Ball that she wasn't gay — "but I could be talked into it" — lang planted a huge kiss on Elvira's lips. Just as lang disengaged, Etheridge swung around and smacked Elvira as well. lang later told the crowd that coming out was the "best thing" she had ever done. Etheridge said she was happy to have been a lesbian all her life. Then the two lesbians hugged

to the delight of everyone. Later, at the March on Washington, Etheridge was introduced as "one of our own."

"You know I've never been in the closet. I've never lied to anyone," Etheridge says during the recent one hour and 15-minute interview in West Hollywood. "When I was on tour and had albums and was doing press, I would say two people actually brought up the subject of sexuality and lesbianism. And I said, 'You know, I choose to just talk about my music.' And they never asked me: 'Are you a lesbian?' I never said no."

"You have to say it."

"I understand that for celebrities and famous people you're in the closet if you don't say you are. It's different — you have to say it. But every single person I've worked with, every single person that is a friend, everybody who knows me in any way knows that I'm a lesbian and has always known. My record company — everyone. I've never hidden that. It's just when it comes to press — I just didn't put it in my bio."

Etheridge says that as her circle of gay friends widened, she started to meet more politically active gays and became involved with helping raise money for the Washington DC-based National Gay & Lesbian Task Force, among other groups.

Etheridge credits Urvashi Vaid, former executive director of the Task Force, with expanding her political awareness. "She educated me," she says. "And the more educated I got, the more I realized that we have to have political equality, and the more I got involved in women's rights, the more it was very closely linked to gay rights."

"I was never really politically involved at all until about the last two or three years. Then it was just this sort of awareness. I turned 30 and started thinking there's more than just singing, playing, and having a good time. There's a whole world. There's a purpose somewhere."

"She's pretty in touch and she has a real commitment to social change," says Vaid, who was introduced to Etheridge about three years ago by Vaid's girlfriend, comedienne Kate Clinton.

"I think what I did was connect her to the movement," Vaid says. "I asked her to do something [perform] and she said yes right away. Then hearing me and others talk about why it was important to be out in Los Angeles — she got it."

Etheridge also credits lang, who emerged on the music scene about the same time, with helping to break the ice before she became more public about her own sexual orientation.

"[But] no matter how many people come out, it's each person's own personal journey. It's basically the fear that people aren't going to like you," she says candidly.

"Somewhere in the back of my subconscious I'm just afraid that everyone's going to leave. But you kind of have to fill up a space inside yourself to know that — 'Hey, even if everybody did go away, I still like me. I love me.'"

It is that core of courage — of having the fear but being who you are anyway — that perhaps enables Etheridge to perform with what has often been described as a power and depth of heartache similar to that of the legendary Janis Joplin. But unlike Joplin, Etheridge has made a conscious decision to survive and prosper.

Etheridge was born May 29, 1961 at 1:15 p.m. ("for those who want to do my astrological chart") in Leavenworth, Kansas, "the center of America."

A child of children of ...

"My parents grew up with dysfunctional alcoholic families. They were non-alcoholic. But they were children of alcoholics so there were a lot of unsaid things. A lot of unexpressed emotions. Not a lot of love. Not a lot of anger. Hidden anger, you know, but not expressed. Nothing was ex-

(Continued on next page)

Etheridge

(Continued from previous page)

pressed.

"So as a child I was just filled with all this stuff and where was I going to put it? Some children get angry and they do drugs and rebel. I went in the basement and wrote songs. I cultivated this anger and this fear and this sadness and longing into music."

But the response to her music brought her attention — she "received something back from it" — which became a powerful motivator. Her talent made her feel different.

"But," she adds, "I think every child thinks they're different, gay or straight. I think in this society, it's so hard to be a child because there's so much that's not talked about," particularly in connection with sexuality.

Although turned off by alcohol and drugs, Etheridge nonetheless says "I believe I've been addicted to love and relationships. I understand addiction. I understand where it comes from because I am the child of children of alcoholics. If I hadn't been a singer I'd probably be an addict in some way."

Etheridge says she didn't know she was a lesbian until she had a secret relationship with her best friend at 17. Looking back, "my whole life I was. But I never heard of it. Even when I was 17, I had not heard the word except you call someone a 'lezzie' in gym or something. But I did not understand what that meant."

With her best friend, however, "it felt so natural. And I was so used to being inside myself, I thought this is just another thing that's different about me."

"Yes, we're aware of this."

Before coming to Los Angeles at 20, Etheridge "came out" to her parents. Her father's response "was simply, 'We were aware of this. Yes, we don't understand it, but as long as you're happy.' I was very, very lucky."

Of coming out to her mother, she says, "When someone has so many issues with themselves, it's very hard to be tolerant and understanding of someone else's. I never got any kind of response from her on any level so this was nothing different."

After her mother retired, when Etheridge was 24, they resolved their differences. "She just saw me being independent and self-supportive and happy and she just kind of learned and went, 'There's nothing wrong with this,'" she says. Her mother now "em-

braces" Etheridge and has become "a little activist herself."

Prior to 1987, when she was discovered by Chris Blackwell, founder of Island Records, Etheridge played twice a week in lesbian bars in Long Beach and Pasadena. "Those were great years — supportive years," she remembers.

Lesbian fans still swoon over Etheridge. Her attractive looks, her coy expressions, combined with the gritty voice she gives to the delicious, excruciating pain of heartache are an irresistible combination. And Etheridge clearly knows about the nuances of love lost, like standing on a corner for hours watching an ex-lover's window.

But Etheridge says it is a misconception to think one major broken heart inspired her. In fact, there were many.

Not monogamous

"All of my relationships overlap," she says with a laugh, wondering whether to go on. "Each of my girlfriends who reads this is just going to cringe. But I have not been monogamous in my relationships until this last one of four years [with a filmmaker]. I have had many relations with women and I have had many lovers. Through the many types of relationships that I've had I have understood and felt lack of commitment or over-commitment or obsessiveness or wanting something and not getting it. I have also felt hurting someone else."

"There's pain. I came to a point a couple of years ago [when] I realized, 'You know what? You're just going to have to feel pain to grow. You're just going to have to feel pain to feel joy,'" she says. "It's a balance."

The agony, that triggered that awareness was the death of her father from cancer on August 8, 1991. "Never Enough" is dedicated to him.

"If you had asked me what would hurt you most, I would say losing my father and that's just what happened," she says. "He meant very much to me professionally — he really supported my career. He helped me a lot. Personally, he was understanding and just everything you could ask for in a father."

Melissa Etheridge is keenly aware that she can make a difference in the lives of young people, but she doesn't want to feel as if she's preaching. "I don't ever want to take advantage of the gift I have and manipulate. I just want to be truthful and honest with myself and put that in my music and hopefully be an example. And they can enjoy it and make it their own."▼

Gay Film Finally Opens in China

by Nick Driver

BEIJING (UPI)—The internationally acclaimed Chinese film *Farewell My Concubine*, initially banned for its portrayal of the Communist Party, began showing in Beijing Sunday, August 29, to applause from the general public.

The winner of the prestigious "Golden Palm" award at the Cannes Film Festival, *Farewell* had premiered for a select audience in July in Beijing but was snubbed by conservative leaders worried more about its negative image of the party than its artistic value.



Leslie Cheung and Zhang Fengyi in Chen Kaige's *Farewell My Concubine*.

After some light editing and the reported intervention of more open-minded party leaders, however, the Ministry of Radio, Film, and Television has approved the film's official opening date of September 1.

An advance video copy of the film began playing to a packed house at one downtown cinema after midnight Saturday, and moviegoers welcomed it — despite a 150 percent surcharge on tickets.

"For me it was not controversial at all: I loved it," said one woman, adding that she

had no problem with the 25 yuan (\$4.50) ticket price.

The movie, directed by prominent Chinese filmmaker Chen Kaige, is a fictional story of a gay relationship between two Peking Opera stars. It depicts their lifelong struggle to survive and perform under modern China's three most recent regimes.

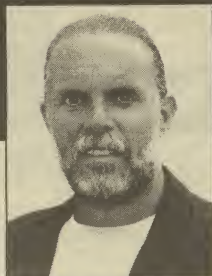
Conservative leaders were apparently angered by the demise of the protagonist under Communist rule in the 1970s after he had managed to survive the 1930s and 1940s

Japanese occupation and life under the Nationalist Chinese regime that was overthrown in 1949.

But one ticket attendant at the Dahua movie theater in downtown Beijing said he could not imagine what all the fuss was about.

"It is nothing but a story of an opera star," said the employee, who identified himself only as Wang. "I cannot imagine how some conservative leaders thought there was any political significance."▼

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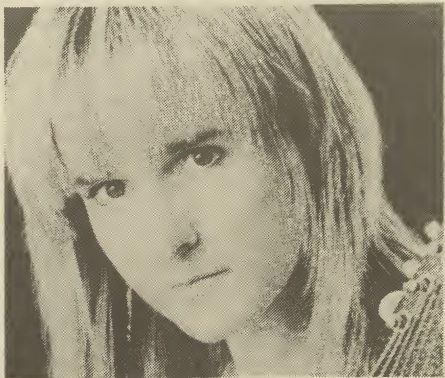
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Etheridge has made the decision to speak openly about her lesbianism

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Community

Once a Queen's Assistant, Now a Buddy: One Man's Odyssey

by Marv. Shaw

"I've never been happier in my life!" exclaimed blonde, boyish Robin Olive as he talked with the B.A.R. about his life in the Bay Area, as a butler in the household of a prominent family — and as a buddy to AIDS patients in ELLIPSE, the San Mateo County AIDS Service. Seemingly an unusual combination, his two roles have been well-prepared for, stay well-balanced, and bring him satisfactions in depth. His history demonstrates how and why.

Born in Lincolnshire, England 43 years ago, Olive developed musical talents early. By the time he was 14, he had given his first public piano recital, and his interest soon thereafter extended to mastery of the organ. Music has remained a vital part of his life: his first acquaintance with U.S. life came in his young adulthood, when he did five tours of the Middle West, giving organ recitals followed by lectures.

But while he was pursuing music, he also prepared earlier for the vocation of being a butler. Intensive training at Nottingham Polytechnic in hotel management gave him the foundation, and he launched his career as a waiter with the Anchor Hotels in Britain, rising rapidly to being the general manager of one of their hotels in Doncaster at the age of 22.

However, the cold impersonality of the operation alienated him: once when he was ordered to fire a dear "washer-up" who was old and subject to accident when observed, he refused, saying that management would have to fire him first. When the old woman revealed that she had to leave her job anyway because of failing health, she gave him a costly present for which she had saved up a good deal of her money. Olive realized then that he couldn't go on with that job and resigned.

Unleash the Queen Mum

But his experience stood him in good stead, and he went to work for the Church of England as a manager of various festivities. He was also a participant at times, donning robes to carry a mace in ceremonies, including banquets, at London's Guildhall. In these and other activities, he became acquainted with the older British royals.

"They're very gracious people with phenomenal memories and a fine sense of humor," he recalled. Soon, whatever the occasion, they came to recognize him, and the greeting was often, "Well, Hello, Robin, nice to see you again."

Delegated to serving the Duke of Edinburgh, he was often told by the Queen's husband, "The usual, Robin." And once in Grantham, when he and others greeted Queen Mother Elizabeth, she exclaimed over the steeple of St. Wolfram's Church, a medieval building. It became obvious at once that the schedule needed to be altered, and Olive and others had to rush



Butler and buddy Robin Olive.

across town to prepare for a sudden royal visit.

When the Queen Mother alighted at the church's door, she spotted them at once and asked, "Did you have to run?"

Recalling this part of his life, Olive observed, "In their lives the pageantry becomes everyday — and so it tended to be in mine as well."

As a matter of fact, Olive stated that what he missed about life in Britain was the historic buildings, the pageantry, the sense of history. What he does not miss is the weather.

After emigrating to the U.S. in 1979, Olive settled in Houston, where he resumed being a butler, working for several years for a gay couple. But he also got involved with a group of young theatrical types, who established a theater much in the style of *Beach Blanket Babylon*. Called *Risky Business*, it was a changing satirical review, which eventually foundered.

Nevertheless, Olive found it a wonderfully bonding experience. "We all lived in one apartment and shared everything," he remembered. At one time they were so strapped for funds they were living on two egg-salad sandwiches a day each.

The "gay cancer" strikes

AIDS, known at that early stage as "gay cancer," had struck, and the *Risky Business* crew, which had done some benefits for the local multiple sclerosis effort, was asked to do another to help finance a house for AIDS patients who had no other shelter. The guest of honor was a formerly very handsome man named Lord Mack.

When he arrived, much enfeebled and marked with KS lesions, everyone shrank from him. Olive, appalled at this reaction and reacting compas-

sionately, welcomed and embraced the man. He counts this as the start of his involvement with helping those afflicted with the disease.

That involvement was brought brutally home soon after, because Olive's lover developed AIDS, and the Britisher nursed him for four years until the man's death. Additionally, the theatrical troupe in *Risky Business* was decimated by 50 percent, because of AIDS.

When Olive came to San Francisco on holiday, he saw one of the annual AIDS Walks. In it was a man who carried a placard that said, "I am walking for my son's life." Olive decided to get involved locally because by that time, he had been offered the position he still holds: informed of ELLIPSE, he became a volunteer.

"I see my buddy twice a week," he explained. Asked about the rewards he has discovered in that experience, Olive was immediate and forthright: "There is a realization of the true meaning of friendship, and a closeness that is simple, deep, and strong."

Not that all is rosy bliss, Olive pointed out. "I have had buddies go into dreadful temper tantrums, burst into floods of unstoppable tears. I have had patients throw up on me in restaurants and collapse in such complete weakness that they had to be carried."

"It's okay"

At such times, Olive has found that a look straight in the eye and a grasp of both hands, accompanied by the simple statement, "It's okay," will bring relief to both the buddy and his partner.

Summing up the budding experience, Olive says that it has helped him immeasurably to grow as a person.

However, he has regrets about some things he has experienced in the U.S. "The worst has been seeing how systems allow people to fall through the cracks, so to speak, especially those AIDS patients who can no longer work and have no other means to sustain themselves. It's in these situations that ELLIPSE is a real help."

But in general, Olive likes Americans better than he does English people. "It's the dynamic quality they have," he said.

As for the future, he intends to continue in much the same lifestyle, well-satisfied in his employment and devoted to his buddies. "I mean to stay in the Bay Area for many more years," he affirmed, adding that he would like to find a lover here and establish a shared home.

"Finally," he emphasized, "I would urge anyone to get involved as an AIDS volunteer."

Those so inclined to do just that can contact ELLIPSE Peninsula AIDS Service at 173 South Boulevard, San Mateo, CA 94402. The phone number is (415) 572 9702. An inquiry will elicit an application form and information on orientation and training sessions for volunteers. ▼

Girl Sues Magic for Passing HIV to Mom

United Press International

LANSING, MICHIGAN — A federal judge says a five-year-old girl may sue retired basketball star Earvin "Magic" Johnson for loss of her mother's companionship due to HIV infection.



Magic Johnson faces a court date in March.

On Monday, August 24, U.S. District Judge Richard Enslen set limits on claims the girl, identified in court records only as "Infant Doe," may level against the former Los Angeles Lakers guard. Enslen said the child may not claim damages for emotional distress because she was not present when Johnson and her mother, Waymer Moore, had a one-night liason in June 1990.

However, a claim would be in order based on loss of her mother's companionship from AIDS-related illness, disability, or death, said Enslen. Michael Bommarito, lawyer for Moore and her daughter, said the same damages could be had from that claim.

Johnson has acknowledged having sex with Moore, a longtime friend. Her lawsuit claims Johnson refused to wear a condom and did not

tell her about his promiscuity and HIV-positive status. Johnson says he was unaware of his infection at the time.

Johnson announced in November 1991 that he had tested HIV-positive and was retiring from professional basketball. The following year, he played on the gold-winning U.S. Olympics basketball team, briefly rejoined the Lakers, and then retired a second time.

The trial is scheduled to begin in March. ▼

Exotic Dancer Ordered To Pay \$18 Million for Passing HIV

United Press International

MIAMI — A jury has awarded \$18 million to a Fort Lauderdale man whose wife, before they were married, infected him with HIV without telling him she knew she had tested positive.

A Dade County Circuit Court jury on Wednesday ordered Lucienne Wheeland, 29, to pay the money to her former husband, Bruce Wheeland, 30.

Marc Sarnoff of Miami, Bruce Wheeland's lawyer, said Thursday, August 28, the case is believed to be the first in which a jury awarded damages against a woman for knowingly infecting a man with HIV. He also said the amount of the award is apparently the largest of its kind.

At a divorce hearing in April, Lucienne said she might have been told she was HIV-positive before she met Wheeland, but did not understand the implications until much later.

Judge Alan Gold at the April divorce hearing ruled Lucienne's testimony was not credible. He said medical records showed she knowing-

ly had engaged in unprotected sex while infected with HIV, despite warnings she could transmit the virus.

He granted a divorce. The damage phase of the case concluded Wednesday.

Wheeland was from Omaha, Nebraska, and Lucienne, a native of Brazil, was working as an exotic dancer. Sarnoff said the couple met on April 21, 1989, the day Lucienne arrived in south Florida.

Sarnoff said the couple had unprotected sex for four months before Lucienne told Bruce she was HIV-positive. Both were tested, Wheeland learned he was HIV-positive, and they decided to go ahead and get married.

"Not a very active past"

"At that time he didn't know she had known all that time [that she was HIV-positive]," Sarnoff said. "He didn't know who had infected who, though he suspected her, because he didn't have a very sexually-active past."

Sarnoff said Wheeland then began to suspect his wife was having extramarital affairs when she failed to come home nights. He went

through her purse and found the cards of two New York physicians.

He went to Sarnoff, who subpoenaed the doctors' records and learned Lucienne was being treated for HIV and had been informed of the diagnosis in 1987. In fact, Sarnoff said, she had been diagnosed with AIDS on March 7, 1989 — more than a month before coming to Florida.

"Once he found out she had known two years beforehand [that she was HIV-positive], he obviously became quite upset," Sarnoff said.

Wheeland, an unemployed security guard, now has full-blown AIDS. He called the award "bittersweet."

"But I'm glad we went all the way with it," he said. "This may help others in the future."

Lucienne also is sick with full-blown AIDS and did not appear in court. She still faces the possibility of charges by the Dade County state attorney's office and the possibility of deportation to Brazil for allegedly providing immigration officials with a false report saying she had tested negative for HIV. ▼

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Health Briefs

Blood Bank Acknowledges False Positives

GLENVIEW, Illinois — LifeSource Blood Services has begun contacting some 2,000 donors whose blood tested HIV-positive in a faulty test, to tell them they can once again donate blood.

LifeSource said Wednesday, August 25, it is sending out letters to the donors, asking them to come in and discuss the test, known as Elisa, which indicated they carried the virus.

The Elisa HIV test is used first because it is quick and cheap. But because it is so unreliable, positive readings always are verified by a second test, the Western Blot.

LifeSource recently decided to take advantage of a federal program that would allow the blood bank to start using the blood of donors who originally tested positive for HIV on the Elisa test but then tested negative on the Western Blot test.

LifeSource is now in the process of contacting the 2,000 donors whose blood was rejected to tell them their blood is acceptable.

— United Press International

Mass. Innoculation of AIDS Vaccine

BOSTON — Health officials disclosed Friday, August 27, that Massachusetts will conduct the nation's first state-sponsored tests of an AIDS vaccine.

The brief announcement in Boston said trials of the drug, gp 160, would be conducted over a 15-month period at 12 sites across the state.

Just when the trials would begin, or how many AIDS patients would be involved, were not revealed.

The announcement said the tests would be conducted in association with MicroGeneSys Inc. and the Wyeth-Ayerst Research Division.

— United Press International

CDC Preaches Against Herbs

ATLANTA — Federal health officials are warning against the use of certain Chinese herbal remedies.

On Thursday, August 26, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said three Colorado children suffered life-threatening reactions when they were given Jin Bu Huan tablets for pain relief.

The CDC said the consumption of such herbal remedies can have adverse health effects such as heart beat and breathing irregularities, especially among children.

Herbal products are exempt from safety and effectiveness regulations because they are not marketed as drugs.

The CDC said the public health implications are potentially great. A recent survey found three percent of respondents used an herbal medicine during the past year.

— United Press International

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THE GAY CONNECTION™
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Obituaries

Benjamin Allen

Feb. 7, 1942-Aug. 16, 1993



Benjamin died at San Francisco General Hospital after many years battling against his illnesses.

Always a counselor with spiritual and psychological insight, he never judged the path of life taken by others. He asked the same from those he knew and loved. He accepted responsibility for all the steps and mis-steps he

made in "his moccasins." The Portuguese proverb always applied: "God writes straight with crooked lines."

Ben moved to San Francisco from Columbus, Ohio in 1970 to join friends, advance his career, and enjoy an unaccustomed liberty. In Columbus, he was an active member and frequent soloist at Mr. Zion Missionary Baptist Church. He graduated from East High School with honors. He received his Bachelor's degree from Ohio State University. He taught for several years at his alma mater, Champion Junior High School. In San Francisco, he earned a Master's Degree in counseling, and for many years was a counselor, administrator, and teacher for the San Francisco and Marin County Schools.

Benjamin received assistance from many wonderful, generous people and agencies in the community. Thanks and gratitude are given to Visiting Home Nurses, Peter Clever House, Shanti Project, Open Hand, and his beloved congregation at Missionary Temple.

Spiritual, understanding, and loving till the end, he gave to the many who gave to him. He will be remembered and loved by many, particularly: Judy A., Berlena, Robert C., Dr. Rena, Bruce H., Richard F., Philip G., Marcus, and Veronica M.

Benjamin was graced by the visit of

his four sisters, Joyce, Jeanette, Marjorie, and his twin, Bernice, five days before his departure.

A memorial service is scheduled for September 12 at 2:00 p.m. at Missionary Temple C.M.E. Church, 1455 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco. Friends may join the congregation and full gospel choir to celebrate Benjamin's life.

Wiley Campbell Herring

April 16, 1936-Aug. 26, 1993

On Wednesday, August 25, 1993, our



friend, Wiley, passed quietly into eternal life after a two-month illness.

Wiley was raised in Virginia. He graduated from William and Mary in 1958, after which he served in the Navy. He moved

to San Francisco in 1963 and never left his favorite city. He sold church organs for many years, and was also a realtor. Since 1985, he had worked for the University of California, San Francisco, at San Francisco General Hospital in the Division of Orthopedic Surgery as an Administrative Analyst, and was very much loved by the attending physicians, the residents and the office staff. He was an accomplished organist and avid lover of music.

He is survived by his brother, Richard Herring; sister-in-law, Jan Herring; mother, Lois Herring; and special friends John, Peter and Steve. Memorial services were held at Grace Cathedral on Monday, August 30, 1993. Should you wish to remember Wiley, smile and do an act of kindness in his memory. Wiley's deeds and kindnesses were many, and he will be greatly missed by all those who knew and loved him.

Jim ("Giacomo") Palazzolo

August 7, 1993

James ("Giacomo") Palazzolo, a long-term survivor who became a leading expert in both conventional and experimental AIDS treatments, died August 7, 1993, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He was 37 years old.

Jim was a professional translator of Japanese technical articles. He attended Tokyo University, and was very interested in Japanese life and culture, and in other Oriental languages. He often used his skills and contacts in Japan to help people with AIDS.

More than anyone we knew, Jim could "work the system" to get the treatments he needed. He was one of the first to travel to Mexico to get ribavirin for use as an HIV treatment.

We will miss Jim's keen wit, extraordinary intellect, and remarkable sense of humor. Him was the embodiment of a dragon: fiery, sharp, and fearless in confronting AIDS — indeed, in confronting life. He often wore his Japanese dragon coat to ACT UP meetings, with an outrageous black and gold sequin "Queen Shenequa" hat.

"The great dragon has flown off into the night. In the stillness that follows, time to reflect on the great battles of the warrior."

A memorial service, and possibly a permanent memorial, are being planned. For more information, call Stan Butler, (617) 524-6210, or Maurice Mollan, (617) 547-7392.

Vic (Victoria) Hayden

August 20, 1993

Vic (Victoria) Hayden, died Friday

August 20, 1993.

Vic, who achieved her life-long dream of becoming a San Francisco firefighter, will be remembered by many loving friends for her great sense of humor and her generosity of spirit — she was always there for a friend.

Vic will be greatly missed. In memory of Vic, please make donations to The Iris Project of San Francisco, 333 Valencia St. SF 94114.

Robert Haule

Dead at 44. Born in Detroit, he left as



soon as his tiny red pumps could carry him. He was a poet and short story writer. He was a well-respected barber at Louis's on Castro for many years. He won the OAS Award for his Peace Through

Poetry Project: "A loaded simile is worth an AK-47." Services will be private. Robert strongly believed that any memorial should take the form of 29-cent stamps applied to letters to editors, journalists, political representatives, your mother, whomever needs to hear your rage. Now is the time to make yourself heard, on all issues, from this horrible disease, AIDS, to the disgraceful treatment of the poor.

Jimmy Vincent

Oct. 12, 1961-Aug. 9, 1993

The gorgeous, dynamic, charming, incredible, and oh so beautiful Jimmy Vincent passed away at UC Medical Center surrounded by close friends and family. Severe pneumonia ended his 12-month decline in health.

It almost seems that everyone in town felt his passion for life, his total generosity, and his special, precious talent for always affirming the joyous and pleasing aspects of living. Never a sad song in his heart, never a harsh word for anyone. He was our own "smooth operator" — always believing in the future.

Jimmy, you live forever in our hearts. You were such a gift to all of us. We love you forever and so deeply.

Richard Alves Moniz

Word has been received in San Francisco that Richard died in Atlanta, Georgia in May 1992 of other than an AIDS-related cause.

He was born in Providence, Rhode Island, lived and went to art school in New York before moving to San Francisco in approximately

1975, and moved to Atlanta about 1985 where he was residing at the time of his death.

Richard had worked for American Automobile Association and then Shackle Corporation headquarters, up to the time he left for Georgia. He lived and loved to the fullest, and was a familiar, friendly face at many of the South of Market, Castro and Church Street area bars. Although he was a "party girl," he had a beautiful, loving heart that kept him searching for "Mr. Right."

He will be missed by those who had the good fortune and pleasure of having known him, in any capacity.

Obituary Policy

Due to an unfortunately large number of obituaries, the Bay Area Reporter has been forced to change its obituary policy.

We must now restrict obits to 200 words. And please, no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

Write name of person on back of photo. If you include a stamped envelope to have the photo returned, please write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.



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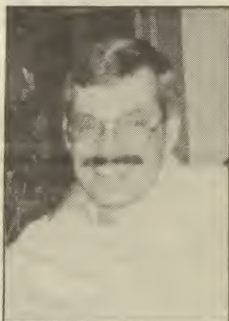


Projected pennies

AIDS Emergency Fund president Rick Salinas and youthful onlookers watch a penny chute display in Justin Herman Plaza August 28. The gathering was called to celebrate 5,000,000 pennies collected by AEF's Penny's Project since August '87.

Tadd Glen Waggoner

1945 - 1993



Tadd died on August 30 the way he wanted it: at home, with the people he loved. With him were his mother, Edythe Atherton, of Mountain Home, Arkansas; his sister, Evalyn Champion, of Ft. Worth, Texas; his ex-wife, Dianna Waggoner; his ex-lover, Chuck Baxter, and his friends, Craig Davidson, Marc Rosaeen, and Zooley (his Abyssinian cat), all of San Francisco.

A gathering of his friends will be held at 7 p.m. on September 10 at the Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka. For further information please call Craig (641-4355) or Marc (585-4742). Tadd requested that, in lieu of flowers, contributions be made to the AIDS Legal Referral Panel.

Tadd was born December 28, 1945, in Mt. Vernon, Illinois and grew up in Kentucky and Arkansas. In 1967, he visited the City, and fell in love with it. In 1968, he married the incomparable Dianna. They were married for two years and she's still Dianna Waggoner. Asked why, Tadd

answered, "She loves me." Tadd remained best friends with his three ex-lovers, Chuck, Rod Schaefer and Kris Anderson, and with Dianna's husband Michael Alexander.

Tadd worked as an editor for Daily Construction Service for 19 years, and for Otis Elevator for six.

His passions were games, square dancing, bridge, and the stage. After college theater his first role was a bit player in the City Players' all-male production of "Mame" in 1972. Later he played the (female) lead in "The Boyfriend," and stole the show as the ditzy maid in "Blythe Spirit."

In 1973, Tadd came across a bridge book and studied it for three years, dealing out hands on the floor of his apartment. The first time he sat down at a bridge game he came in second of 12 pairs.

Tadd was an active force in the gay square dance community beginning in 1983. He was a member of the Western Star Dancers, the Midnight Squares, and the Foggy City Dancers, singing calls in his lovely tenor voice. He was instrumental in bringing the International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs convention to San Francisco in 1986.

His legacy will be Quicktricks Bridge Club, the only gay bridge club sanctioned by the American Contract Bridge League, and the friendliest club anywhere. Quicktricks was the brainchild of Tadd and Dee Sauer, among others, and Tadd ran it for more than 14 years, until his health forced him to retire early this year. He also taught beginning bridge classes, initiating at least 300 new players into what he knew was the best card game in the world.

He was a charter member of the Plumas Poofers, an unorganized group of friends who spent holiday weekends at a cabin in the Sierras playing hearts, bridge, charades and every game that comes in a box.

"Anyone for a game of hearts?" Tadd would ask, often at 3 a.m.

Tadd wanted his ashes scattered around his cabin.

Two of Tadd's loves converged in 1990 when the fall North American Bridge Championships were held in San Francisco. Tadd (usually in men's clothing) sang and danced in the musical revue "There's Nothing Like a Game," which played nightly after the bridge games were finished. He reprised his role at the 1991 summer nationals in Las Vegas.

This spring he was nominated for a Cable Car Award for distinguished service to the gay community.

In July 1993 while in the hospital, Tadd received the ACBL's Presidential Citation (rarely bestowed) in recognition of his remarkable contributions to bridge spanning almost two decades.

On Memorial Day 1993, Tadd won \$1,000 on a \$5 slot machine at Cal-Neva in Reno. There's a terrific picture of Tadd and the slot, both smiling. Next time, he plans to go to Harold's Club to play the slot machine the size of a grand piano.

"Oh darlin' boy,
I love you, love you so."
Please wait for us. ▼

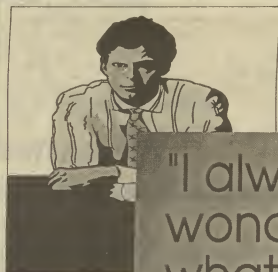


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Military News

Rand Report

(Continued from page 1)

ban, drafted by Senator Sam Nunn (D-Georgia), is so anti-gay some conservative legislators are gleefully referring to it as "ban plus."

Liberal members of Congress had dogged Aspin for weeks about the Rand report, in hopes of obtaining the report before it came time to vote on "ban plus." They now have their wish.

"We hope it will affect the debate," said Brendan Daly, a spokesperson for openly gay Representative Gerry Studds (D-Massachusetts). "We're really going to use it after recess. At 518 pages, it's a very thorough, substantive report."

But other congressional sources were still unhappy with the timing. "What ticks us off is that this has been released during recess, when everyone is away and press impact is minimal," said David Vershure, spokesperson for Representative Patricia Schroeder (D-Colorado). "It makes you wonder: Did Sam Nunn have to sign off on this, too?"

Vershure said he was "not at all confident" that Rand would have an impact on the codification debate. "Rand is far more helpful in its long-term impact, such as in future court cases," Vershure said. "It's just another piece of the arsenal arguing for a conducted-based policy."

The potential results of the Rand report are hard to gauge, said Tanya Domi, director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's Military Freedom Initiative. "You'd hope that it would give serious members of Congress pause before voting for a convoluted policy [ban plus]," she said. "But given the fact that the politics of hysteria reign, I don't know [how the codification effort will end]. We will certainly be making the case with the

Rand report, I can tell you that."

Strategy in the House

In the House of Representatives, sources said, the best bet for nipping "ban plus" in the bud comes from a first-term member, Representative Martin Meehan (D-Massachusetts), who sits on the House Armed Services Committee.

Currently, the "ban plus" language is attached as an amendment to the defense authorization bill. Meehan would like to offer up another amendment that would leave Clinton's compromise intact, and would not give any policy on gays in the military the force of law — in effect, nullifying "ban plus."

"We think the best way to go is the Meehan Amendment, which would leave these decisions up to the executive branch," Daly said. "That way, Congress wouldn't vote at all on [the content of] the president's policy." While not a perfect solution, Daly added, "Unfortunately, at this point, that's the best we could come up with."

Vershure said a "major selling point" of the Meehan language is that it provides political cover for all the middle-of-the-road representatives, who would prefer to not be forced into a vote on a highly charged issue.

"If we succeed with the Meehan Amendment, we've still got a bad policy," Vershure explained. "But if we fail with the Meehan Amendment, we've got a bad policy that's going to become a bad law, which is much harder to change."

But the Meehan Amendment faces a hurdle before it can ever come to a floor vote, due to a procedure followed in the House of Representatives, where (unlike in the Senate), any amendments to bills must first clear the Rules Committee. But, sources said, the Rand report will hopefully aid in pushing the amendment through committee. ▼

Watkins

(Continued from page 15)

Do you believe there is a lesson to be learned from your experience?

I certainly do. Even if the government does not acknowledge it, the fact is that my service was an "unsolicited experiment." The control group was the U.S. Army and a policy stating homosexuality is "incompatible with military service." My serving as a documented openly gay soldier tested the validity of the policy. It began the day I was drafted. The Army acknowledged the experiment was an indisputable success, when they stated in court that Perry Watkins was an exemplary soldier.

The U.S. Supreme Court validated this acknowledgment by reviewing the Army's own documentation and then refusing to hear the argument that enforcing the policy was more important than the validity of the results of the experiment. In fighting the current homophobia I would certainly include, rather than ignore, techniques so effective that not one person has ever said they couldn't serve with me because they were "afraid I would look at them in the shower."

Building on what has been successful should certainly be a major part of any political or organizational effort. Gathering as much information as possible — from units in which I, Ben-Shalom, [Keith] Meinhold, and others have, and are, serving to establish a true unbiased, non-political, factual data base, and from people who have served with openly gay and lesbian service members — would provide a very solid foundation and a credible frame of reference to discredit the homophobic myths, lies, rhetoric, and conjecture. ▼

Judge

(Continued from page 1)

appealing that decision.

Schwartz is the second judge in the United States to rule on the constitutionality of the military's ban on gays and lesbians. In Monday's 43-page ruling, he stated, "No governmental entity, even the military, can enact and enforce prejudicial policies without doing violence to constitutional guarantees." Schwartz stated that regulations requiring discharge on the basis of sexual orientation violate the Fifth Amendment guarantee of equal protection.

The Navy was ordered to reinstate Dahl, to eliminate all records and references to his sexual orientation, and enjoined not to take any adverse action against Dahl because of his sexual orientation or to seek to discharge him under any "purported authority" of DOD or Pentagon rules barring lesbians and gays in the military.

Schwartz reviewed and analyzed the Navy's arguments in support of the ban and

then contended that the policy of preventing sexual conduct in the rank and file by prosecuting men and women who will not lie about their sexual orientation is inconsistent because they don't prosecute those who "don't tell."

Schwartz called the policy "illogical."

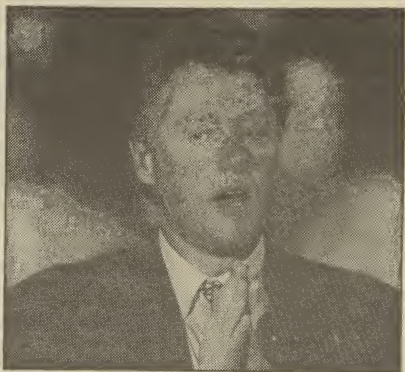
In a sweeping opinion, Schwartz discounted Pentagon and official testimony which was heard in the Senate Armed Services Committee this spring, calling all of the reasons asserted, including those of Desert Storm leader General Norman Schwarzkopf, "prejudicial on their face. The court may not give effect to such illegitimate fears and biases reflected in government policy, whether military or civilian."

Schwartz's ruling targeted DOD policies which were in effect at the time of Dahl's 1982 discharge — not the current "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

Dahl said Monday he would consider reentering the Navy as a military attorney if Schwartz's decision is not appealed. ▼

"No governmental entity, even the military, can enact and enforce prejudicial policies without doing violence to constitutional guarantees."

— U.S. Judge Milton L. Schwartz



Clinton to Religious Leaders: 'Respect Diversity'

United Press International

WASHINGTON — President Clinton met with 250 religious leaders Monday, August 30, and preached tolerance of diversity and unity for the common good as the country moves into the 21st century.

Clinton, who hosted the ecumenical breakfast for the ministers in the East Room, quipped that he happily had received dispensation for his refreshing ten-day vacation at Martha's Vineyard and was told that "I do not have to feel any guilt."

The president, who returned to the White House Sunday evening, said he wanted the get-together with

the religious leaders to represent a "new beginning ... as we rededicate ourselves for the purpose of why we're here."

Clinton said he had an "interesting conversation" with some of the ministers at his table "on some of the things dividing this country as well as uniting them."

"I am often troubled, as I try to find a new way of common purposes," he said, that differences turn into a "screaming match."

"That does not mean that we have to minimize our differences or pretend that we don't have deep convictions or run away from our honest differences," he explained. "It means we have to find a way to talk with respect to one another." ▼

Lutheran Group Backs Gay Marriages and Ordinations

by Dennis Conkin

More than 500 Lutheran pastors, seminary professors, bishops, and church administrators took a stand in support of the ordination of lesbian and gays, and of ecclesiastical recognition of gay relationships, Friday, August 27.

The clergy and religious workers are part of The Network To End Sexual Discrimination within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, which gathered in Kansas City during the biennial Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

The Network is predominately composed of heterosexuals who feel compelled to take a stand against the ban on married gay clergy and for religious recognition of lesbian and gay relationships in the denomination, according to Mahrya Monson, a spokesperson for the group.

"As one who has held the office of bishop in the church, I cannot remain passive or silent," said retired Bishop Stanley T. Olson. "I have witnessed the unscriptural burdens the ELCA has placed on all of its gay and lesbian members, whether lay or ordained."

ELCA is a 5.3 million-member denomination that was formed in a 1988 merger between the American Lutheran Church and the Lutheran Church in America.

The denomination currently has a policy that requires lesbian and gay clergy to remain celibate, and does not officially sanction marriage ceremonies among same-sex couples.

"It's an extremely important issue and we are very

hopeful," Monson told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "Sooner or later the church will change its policy. The church usually acts later because it follows its people, and we're out there in front, leading on this issue."

The clergy who made the August 27 public affirmations of support for changes in Lutheran policy can face sanctions, Monson said: if their congregations are conservative and do not support their actions, they may vote to dismiss the pastors from their duties.

"It's a very courageous thing [for the pastors] to do," Monson said. "I think it's very important to remember that the people of the Network are part of the Lutheran tradition. After all, Martin Luther was not exactly in tune with the church in his day."

Monson said that she expects that in coming months more lesbian and gays will be ordained as Lutheran pastors, in open defiance of the ban by congregations around the country.

A history of intolerance

In 1990 the ELCA disciplined two Bay Area congregations, St. Francisco and First United, for ordaining and employing a lesbian couple and a gay man in violation of the ban.

The trio — the Reverends Ruth Frost, Phylliss Zillhart, and Jeff Johnson — also staff the Lutheran Lesbian and Gay Ministry, an outreach ministry that serves people with AIDS, lesbian and gay singles and couples, and sexual minority youth, in addition to their congregational posts.

The two congregations were suspended for five years because of the historic act, and will be expelled in 1995 if the denomination, after studies of its policies on human sexuality and ordination, fails to change its anti-gay stance.

However, the studies the ELCA commissioned in response to the irregular ordinations have failed to address the issues of ordination for lesbians and gays and gay marriages, according to one Network spokesperson, and its policy on lesbians and gays is now similar to President Clinton's unpopular compromise on gays in the military.

"Our church has for decades maintained a 'don't ask don't tell' policy, while at the same time demanding that its pastors and lay people live honest and exemplary lives," said Lynn Mickelson, co-chair of Lutheran Concerned North America, a lesbian and gay group. "Yet when one is honest about their orientation and their relational life, the ELCA reacts with discipline and censure."

"Many church leaders are quietly supportive of lesbian and gay persons in the church, however, their public silence precludes them from being agents for change. Gay and lesbian people will not feel welcome in the ELCA until their loving, committed relationships are affirmed and pastors in such relationships are enabled to serve openly," said the Reverend Paul Johnson, who was forced last year to resign from his position as an Assistant to the Bishop of La Crosse, Wisconsin, because he is gay. ▼

Survey Says — Straight Male Protestants Get Few Sex Partners

A recent study of the sexual activity of several thousand men revealed who — among heterosexuals — switches partners most.

The study, published in a journal linked to Planned Parenthood, *Family Planning Perspectives*, sampled more than 3,300 men ranging between 20 and 39 years of age.

Almost 90 percent of the never-married men had engaged in sexual intercourse at least once in their lives. The highly educated and conservative Protestants were less likely to engage in sexual activity while unmarried. These two groups also had the fewest number of sexual partners during their lives. Since education has a supposedly liberalizing effect, researchers were somewhat surprised that the educated were more likely to refrain from sexual activity.

About 23 percent of all men in the survey had sexual intercourse with more than 20 partners in their lifetime. Men with no religious convictions had the most sexual partners. Currently-cohabiting

men had significantly more partners during their lifetime than other single men. Currently-married men had the fewest number of partners in their lives.

The survey also inquired about numbers of partners during the past 18 months. Almost 96 percent of married men had engaged in sexual intercourse with only one partner, presumably their wives, in the preceding 18 months. However, among men currently cohabiting, 69 percent had only one partner during that time.

The results of the study indicate that sexual activity varies significantly depending on the educational level, religious commitment, and marital status. The AIDS epidemic and risk of other sexually transmitted diseases may have reduced the numbers of partners among the more highly educated, along with other groups. Those who are religious or married presumably had lower numbers of sexual partners because of personal belief systems which mitigate against extramarital sex. ▼

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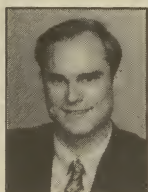


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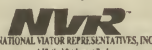
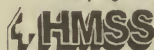
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Guest Opinion

(Continued from page 6)

or segregated.

What's more, expanded rights tend to make the ex-cerated more uppity. Clinton's new policy won't end the witchhunts, but if it did, would lesbians and gays then rest content? Even if the military's closets were abolished, would gays emerge quietly? Or would they protest against unjust and unneeded wars? Or maybe demand the right to elect their officers, a la Trotsky's Red Army after the 1917 Russian Revolution?

And what would happen when these newly empowered vets come marching home?

The lavender menace that terrifies skittish politicians is a beautifully clear and present danger to the fraying fabric of Amerikkka.

2. It's the military that's sick and perverted.

Gay people aren't the ones with a deviant, illegitimate, immoral lifestyle. The military establishment is the body with the disease, and its name is sexual fascism.

Army culture cements a male bonding based on shared misogyny and race-hate. Basic training relies on humiliating the raw recruit by calling him a pussy or girle. Platoon spirit is buoyed by chanting jingoistic jingles about the racial/physical traits of the enemy.

Servicemen are indoctrinated to scorn open gays who won't endorse their view of women as hunks of meat, rape objects, and practice toys for sadism. Straight male G.I.s are terrified that gay men will treat them the way they themselves treat women. Out lesbians are despised because they refuse to be part of the victim reservoir.

Yes, sexual marauding is intrinsic to the military, part and parcel of its climate of imperialist violence.

But if the institution is so evil, why should gays strive to be in it? Because it is their simple right not to be discriminated against. And because some of those gals and guys are equalitarians who want to be in the trenches beside their working-class sisters and brothers in order to better challenge the Pentagon, not promote it.

Moral pollution exists — in the stance of the warmongers. And gays are the uncontaminated troops destined to clean out the stables.

3. Lesbians and gays are oppressed because they threaten the forced maintenance of the fissioning nuclear family.

It goes like this: The system extracts super-profits from the unpaid or vastly underpaid labor of women. And the patriarchal, male-headed family is the conduit for this rip-off.

A vast superstructure keeps fracturing families mortared together, despite widespread misery and repression in the home. Alternative ways of living are a Bad Influence, especially as practiced by lesbians — so bachelordom is chic, but old maidhood is always pathetic, and lesbians are kicked out of the services six to ten times as often as gay men. Yet the number of lesbians is growing, partly because hetero relations today are so unappetizing. The arrogance and boorishness of typical male egos eventually repels self-respecting women.

Both genders have every right to claim a sexual mode that is less dangerous and irritating and more sensually fulfilling, more democratic and supportive of integrity and activism, more respectful of motherhood and childhood, and more feminist.

Face it, globo-cops: the values of the Victorian hearth are falling into the ashbin of history. Alternate mores are filling the vacuum. Cultural pluralism on the family front is truly, delightfully subversive!

A new day is dawning.

Homosexual rights are big-media cover stories. Gays are scaling unaccustomed heights of power. The polymorphously perverse packed up in record-shattering droves for the giant April 25 March on Washington. The gay community, with a renewed life-energy propelled by AIDS and the spectre of death, is politicized and afire. The battle against the troglodytes is joined.

But this expanded confidence needs all the radical vision and audacity it can muster, because our new Prez is as treacherous on civil rights as he is on the economy, stupid, and austerity and dashed hopes will be the sole rewards for his misguided supporters.

The message for labor and all civil rights and civil liberties movements: Insist on gay rights now. Forge a united front against the tyranny of the homophobes. Protest compromises and stalls and the "practical-politics" betrayals of the so-called liberals. And ask not for whom the presidential sellout is being prepared, for the answer is you.

Don't you see? Sexual liberation will never be tolerated by a market, dog-eat-dog, cannibalistic economy. Free love can flourish only in a caste-free and thereby a hate-free community of equal and autonomous humans, who will bypass the nature/nurture niggling and serenely proclaim their affectional choices free of any pressure to vindicate their delicate, personal decisions to anybody.

The only antidote to sexual fascism is socialist democracy. The only road to gay freedom is a universal, across-the-board, non-exploitative family of earthlings. Gay Pride shall ring out when the human race as a whole becomes proud of itself. ▼

Friday

(Continued from page 9)

bers of the Corps.

Meanwhile, the man described by police and military investigators as the leader of the gay Marine porno production ring, says that more than 500 Camp Pendleton Marines have, at one time or another, taken part, adding that even the "straight" Marines take part because "they're lonely, homesick, and horribly underpaid" and that "most women don't want to have anything to do with them; women here want college guys who want to be attorneys and who can give them a nice car and nice family." Not according to the Marine Corps; I mean, they might find one or two they will give up, but you won't hear much more about this one, folks.

Jerry Falwell's Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia, is reportedly on the financial brink and said to be "tens of millions" in debt; Falwell, in a recent *USA Today* interview: "I opposed the President on lifting the ban (on gays in the military) and I'm glad we won that." He also commented that "if the religious right has any friends in the White House, they're hiding because they want to keep their jobs." Some homophobic pigs never change, do they?

In Marietta, Georgia, gay rights activists say they'll urge corporations with 250 tentative bookings at the new \$43 million convention center to go elsewhere, in a campaign to pressure commissioners to revoke resolutions condemning gay and lesbian "lifestyles" and eliminating arts grants.

Not the most exciting person to begin with, Governor Pete Wilson was having a bad time last week: the day he was unveiling his suggested immigration reforms, L.A. television stations all but ignored him to put the spotlight on Hollywood's alleged madam-to-the-stars, Heidi Fleiss, who was in court; then when he tried again last Tuesday to make a speech about immigration, media attention went to a packed news conference given by Michael Jackson's lawyer Howard Weitzman, regarding the LAPD's investigation of the superstar entertainer, and the gov's latest political issue went nearly unnoticed.

Sacramento insiders who are supposed to know these things tell me that State Controller Gray Davis, with high name recognition, might force former state Demo party chair Phil Angelides out of the lieutenant governor's race and into the race for state treasurer; meanwhile, board of equalization member Matt Fong,

the son of Democratic Secretary of State March Fong Eu, is a sure bet to be the GOP's nominee for Treasurer next year.

Former L. A. Mayor Tom Bradley will address San Francisco's Commonwealth Club luncheon next Friday, September 10 (597-6705 for tix and info).

Well, it's taken enough time, but President Clinton is said to be close to announcing a slew of Federal judicial appointments that will reshape the judiciary, moving it away from the ultra-conservative direction it took under the Reagan-Bush years.

And as the *L.A. Times* pointed out, some Congress members come to their beliefs through cold, political calculation, while others get the benefit of personal moments. Senator Barbara Boxer, long a proponent of gun control, deepened her resolve when two recent incidents touched her life. When the heavily armed gunman killed eight people in a San Francisco high-rise last month, one of the victims was a very close friend of her son, Doug; a few days later, one of the employees in Boxer's San Francisco office was arrested after police received a tip that he was carrying a concealed weapon; the Boxer receptionist, immediately fired, was carrying a 9-milimeter handgun.

And how was your week? ▼

Travels in America

by Michael C. Botkin

Driving from Chicago to San Francisco along Interstate 80 isn't usually considered a dangerous trek, but my partner Steve, who just completed such a trip with a rented truck, considers himself lucky to have made through in one piece. Aside from minor harassment and constant homophobic commentary from the locals, he and his traveling companion had their lives seriously threatened twice, were denied lodging because they were gay, and were occasionally threatened with arrest for no reason.

For starts, let me point out that neither of the travelers involved here are particularly

and treat us like dirt but someday we're gonna get back at 'em."

It wasn't until they got to Rock Springs, Wyoming, that they encountered potentially lethal violence. After checking into a motel they walked a block or so to a restaurant. En route, a big-wheel jeep with four drunken rednecks in it swerved across two lanes of traffic and gunned right for them, stopping a few inches short of running them over, then drove off laughing hysterically. "Suppose that drunk hit the brake a little too late," Steve commented later. "We'd be dead and listed as an unfortunate (or not so unfortunate) accident."

After dinner, on the way back, they were shot at by a pair of local residents, the bullets passing over their heads. It's a good thing that booze throws off their aim!

When they got back to the motel the desk clerk was skeptical and hostile. "I never heard of such a thing happening around here," she insisted. She did not offer to call the police. They decided they had to check out and leave right away. "We can't give you a refund, you know," was her closing remark.

Motivated by mortal fear, and assisted by the relatively decent condition of Wyoming's roads (Nebraska's were a disaster) they made it to Salt Lake City by 3:30 am and went in search of lodging.

You can get arrested

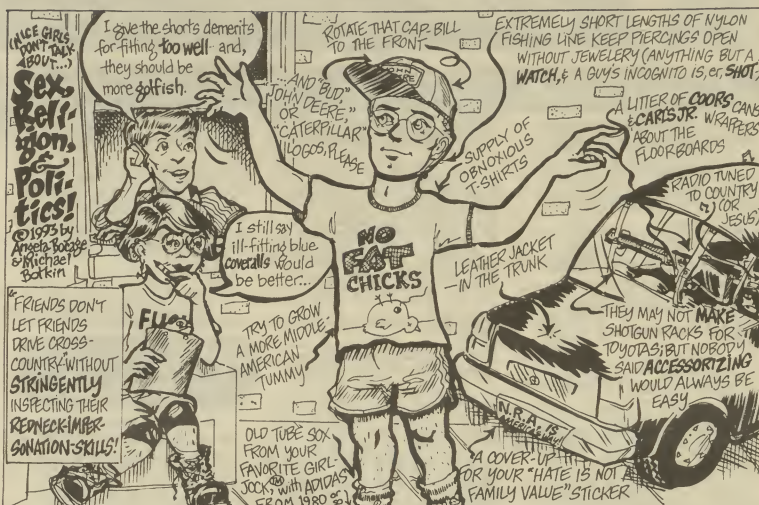
Most hotels were closed, but they did find a Quality/Comfort Inn (a Mormon-owned chain, as is Marriott) that was open and had vacancies, but — alas! — not for queers. "We're full!" they insisted (but then why were they staffing their front desk in the middle of the night?). "You can get rooms at the Ramada." This was true, but it turned out that such rooms cost three times as much. In no condition to argue, they paid the mark-up at the more tolerant hotel.

Later they were to learn that Salt Lake City's (and therefore Utah's) three gay bars were about a block away from the Comfort Inn, and the clerks there doubtless assumed that they were looking for a place to trick. Of course, they'd assumed wrong; but even if they were correct, what right did they have to discriminate in that way?

However, Utah offered some relief in that there were other men with ponytails to be seen.

Now they were ready for the final drive across the Nevada desert for the safe haven of California. Around Winnemucca, they stopped for gas and, since the station attendant seemed determined to ignore them while he chatted with a couple of fat cops in their car, Steve began to pump his own gas. Eventually the attendant sauntered over.

"Where you guys from?" he asked, eyeing those damned New York plates. "Chicago and California," Steve answered. This did him no good; Chicago is seen as a suburb of New York City and California — well, you know what that's like. "Well I knew you weren't from around here. People around here



know you can get arrested for pumping your own gas at a full service station," he replied, nodding towards the cops. Steve apologized profusely, paid, and drove safely at legal speeds for the border.

"This country isn't safe," was Steve's conclusion. "It's no better than it was 100 years ago, when bandits robbed the stagecoaches. It's like Bosnia!"

I don't agree that the U.S. is as bad as Bosnia, but it might get there surprisingly soon. Outside the major urban areas ignorance and bigotry rule unopposed. It's not just fags — or suspected fags — that get hassled, either. Any-

one who isn't a fat white redneck will likely get the same treatment. At a gas station on the outskirts of Rock Springs, Steve exchanged commiserating glances with a African-American guy who was, obviously, having an equally unpleasant trip. "He looked terrified," Steve said. Although his kids were anxious to use the bathroom, their father wouldn't let them out of the car; too dangerous.

If you're queer and must travel through "the Heartland" I suggest you do so in disguise. Wear baseball caps, remove outward signs of perversion, and favor T-shirts with dumb slogans (like "no fat chicks" or "proud to be

trailer trash"). Avoid New York or California plates; Texas license plates would be ideal (particularly if you're driving through Texas). Add some reactionary bumper stickers to your car (along the lines of "Support your local police" or "Jesus is Lord").

Remember, it's a free country; inbred bigots are free to shoot you or run you over whenever they can get away with it. Fortunately, this only applies in about 95 percent of the country. As for me, I've hardly left the nine-county greater Bay Area region in over two years, and may not again for the rest of my life. ▼

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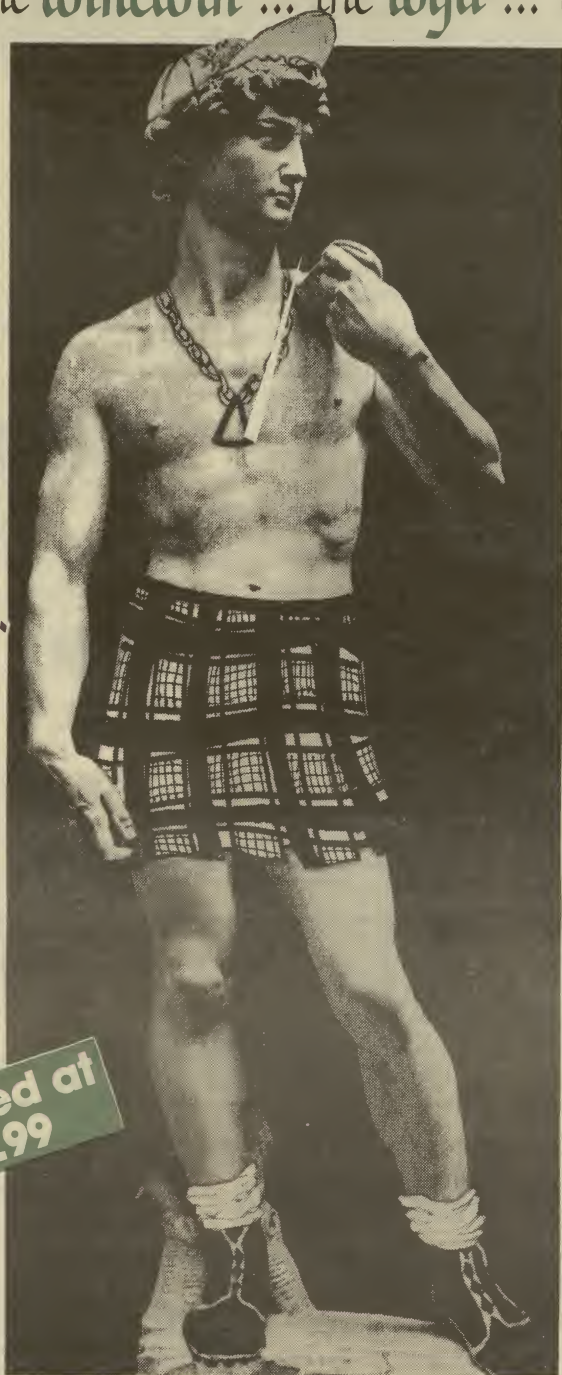
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Panning for Gold
at the Mother Lode

Crossing the Line

by Ben Shepard

I'll never forget the expression on the dancer's face the first time I went to the Mother Lode. I huddled in the back, plain-clothed, sipping a cocktail. A furious cavalcade of pin-lit palm leaves decorated the six-foot square elevated stage where she was extrapolating as much limelight as possible. She wore a revealing white lacy body suit, lines of a G-string barely visible underneath, and her very real breasts gave way to masculine hips.

Not too many people made it to the bar that Friday night. The dancer, by herself, made up for whatever action was lacking. Oozing urgent exhibitionism, she turned her back to the bar, closed her eyes, shook her hair and slowly bent over, thrusting her undulating hips into the crowd. Turning her head to the right, she licked her teeth and locked eyes with mine.



"I believe that's for you," my friend observed slyly.

The Mother Lode is frequented by gender-benders, swingers, preppy men, a few transvestites, transsexuals, a she/he or seven, some boys from Des Moines, and some from Taiwan. It's not even

that large a place, which helps. The bar is located in the center of the room, so everyone has to deal with each other just to get from one end to the other.

These days the streets outside the Mother Lode, at the corner of Larkin and Post

Night time is the right time for gender-benders of all persuasions to converge on the Mother Lode. Left, an invitation to the dance. (Photos: Rick Gerharter)

streets, abound with shemales who are not easily understood or defined. Nan Goldin wrote in the introduction to *The Other Side* — a collection of photographs of transvestites and transsexuals — that she never saw her subjects as "men dressing as women, but as something entirely different — a third gender that made more sense than either two."

One transvestite friend told me how he hates campy cross-dressers. "It's a reflection on who I am. It has given transvestites and transsexuals a bad name."

★ ★ ★

I wanted to fit in. Off with the post-collegiate uniform of jeans, flannel shirt, and hiking

boots. Getting dressed took as much time that evening as I would spend at the bar. I drank my fourth martini, lit a Marlboro red, and stared into the mirror as my friends set about transforming me into Sherry, a relatively fresh magnolia from Atlanta.

Shaving took forever, in preparation for the garter stockings, which were then tastefully layered with fishnets. Such a classy look! My makeover included no-fade, no-feathering lipstick — "media" by MAC — plus an understandably copious amount of eye makeup and blusher. I also wore classic large gold-hoop earrings in a homage to Sade.

Once complete, the mirror presented a different animal, an odd creature who crossed

Merrymakers busting out all over at the Mother Lode.



(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Was I hiding
behind a
facade or
merely
complementing
parts that
were already
there?

the line between elegant confusion and charade. Was I hiding behind a facade or merely complementing parts that were already there?

I felt ready to hit the streets, with my shoulder-length tresses and long legs, to give Donna Summer a run for her money.

"Not Donna Summer," my friend remarked, "but Howard Stern."

Walking to the bar by myself was the strangest part; I felt as if the territory be-

(Continued on page 51)

OutThere

The Annals of Queerdom

by Orland Outland

Comedy of Terrors: Two weeks ago Yours Truly asked a Warners spokesman about rumors in *Star* gossip columnist Janet Charlton's column that Anne Rice was upset with the casting of Tom Cruise in *Interview With the Vampire*, and that Cruise insisted on the removal of all homoeroticism from the script. "Absolute rubbish" was the official response to both rumors. A week later, Rice gave an interview with the *Los Angeles Times* venting her anger about Cruise. I then called Warners again and asked if they now wanted to issue a new statement. They did: Warners' VP of publicity said that Rice's interview with the *Times* was the first clue the studio had of her displeasure. It's hard to imagine that Rice, who fought film studios for 15 years over alterations to her original vision, would not register an official complaint. Warners alleges she did not.

As for the other rumor — that Cruise demanded all homoeroticism be removed from the script before he'd sign on? The Warners VP said that she had not heard of Cruise's requiring any such changes — which is not the same as denying the charge. Days after that conversation, Liz Smith, who has been charged by *Spy* with being a too-willing tool of publicists, published an item about the "rampant" rumor of Cruise's



Cruising for a bruising? Novelist Anne Rice (on right) has let her displeasure over Tom Cruise's casting as Lestat be known.

script-change demands. Smith quotes only one source on the rumors: Cruise's publicist, who says that "any homoerotic elements that were in the original script remain." Now here comes the spin control: "Maybe not as many as Anne Rice's — or Tom's — gay fans would like, or as many as were in the book ..." And so on. If Cruise does have any gay fans, he's not likely to hang on to them if the film sanitizes the book. Of course, by printing the denial in her column, rather than extinguishing the rumor, Smith

has actually spread it to a much wider audience.

Your OutThere exclusive: the changes in the script are alleged to be as follows: an erotic scene between Cruise and Brad Pitt is excised. Lestat's penchant for seducing both men and women and toying with them before he kills them or makes them his "slaves" is excised — Lestat has been made exclusively heterosexual. Which leaves the relationship of vampire Louis (Pitt) with vampire Ar-



Brad Pitt is one-half of *Vampire's* gay element.

Isabelle Holland's novel *The Man Without a Face* to the big screen. OutThere got a call from David Salinas, who went to see the flick and left the theater in shock. Salinas says that in the novel, the Gibson character was gay, and not only that, he and the boy have a sexual encounter. And was that in the movie? Guess. *Us*, *Entertainment Weekly*, and *Premiere* all ran cover stories on Gibson; not only did this "minor" detail about the film get by them, they all let Gibson get away with his publicity campaign to remake his image. There will presumably be no "movie tie-in" reissue of the book.

Speaking of Hollywood's mixed-signal mania, check out *Entertainment Weekly*. Their list of upcoming films includes a number of gay interest: *M. Butterfly* and *Derek Jarman's Wittgenstein* in September, *Farewell to My Concubine* in October, *Even Cowgirls Get the Blues* in November, and perhaps the most important flick, *Philadelphia*, in December. Hollywood's first big-budget "AIDS/Gay" movie may be its last if the flick tanks at the box office — but a rumored Oscar-caliber performance from Tom Hanks may save the day. However, *EW* also notes that New Line Video is giving retailers two versions of the lesbian triangle flick *Three of Hearts*: they can get the "happy" ending in which William Baldwin gets the girl, or the "sad" ending, in which he doesn't.

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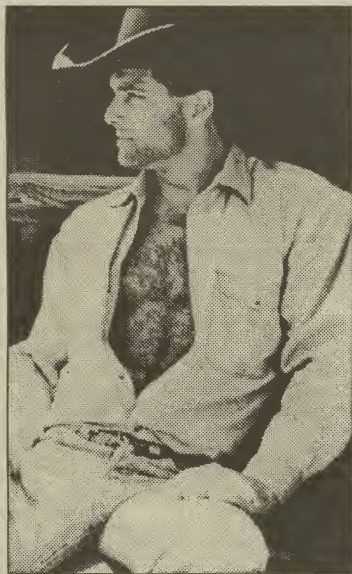
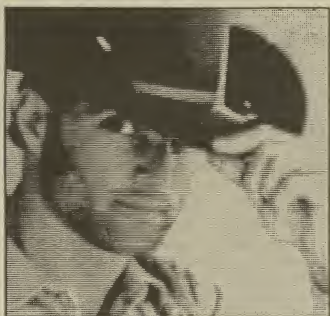
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mand (Antonio Banderas) as the only remaining gay element from the book. Some filming will take place here in November, and here's another OutThere exclusive: the scenes between Louis and the boy (River Phoenix) who conducts the interview may be transplanted, at least in part, from the Divisadero Street house to the Golden Gate Bridge. Warners says that *Vampire* is a "closed set," which means no press or other visitors, anywhere, anytime. So remember, if you don't read any future *Vampire* items here first, it won't be for lack of trying. And if this flick turns out to be a turkey, cheer up: Rice has signed a \$17 million contract with Knopf to produce three more vampire chronicles.



River: On the bay?



Me and Mr. Ed: Cowgirls Uma Thurman (on left) and Lorraine Bracco.

Only in L.A.: A stage version of *Whatever Happened to Baby Jane*, with the entire story translated into ... Swedish. Starring Ulrika Malmgren as Blanche and Katta Palsoon as Jane, think of it as Bergman's *Portrait of a Marriage* starring Bette Davis and Joan Crawford. The production got a review in *Daily Variety*, which likened the effect of the performance to "having an angry man get in your face and shout in Swedish for an hour." A Broadway run is presumably not in the works.

But here in S.F., Bob Dorian, host of American Movie Classics, was in town last week to film a segment for AMC at the Castro, and introduce a new print of Alfred Hitchcock's *Strangers on a Train*. From the stage of the theatre, he told the audience that the sound man had a lot of trouble during their shoot. As Dorian walked toward the camera in the balcony of the Castro, his shoes kept sticking to the floor — every time he lifted his foot, the microphone picked up the riiiiiiip. ▼

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Is the *Vampire* saga the only ongoing homophobic story in Hollywood? Does the pope shit in the woods? Certified Neanderthal Mel Gibson has just brought

Not Quite a Superstar

by John Blanco

Robbie D.
The Fertile Boy
Piece of Mind

Growing up in Salt Lake City, Utah, local singer/performance artist Robbie D. was a skinny, misunderstood Mormon queer with dreams of superstardom. He spent much of his time at Salt Lake's only hip all-ages nightclub, where he eventually became the resident "artistic director and teen idol." An adolescence spent in a dark, smoky, Bauhaus-spinning club environment has left D. a bit goth-damaged, as anyone can tell from *The Fertile Boy's* bleak atmospheric and D's overwrought, Master Thespian-style singing. (The album isn't subtitled *Psychotic Mormon Death Pop* for nothin'.)

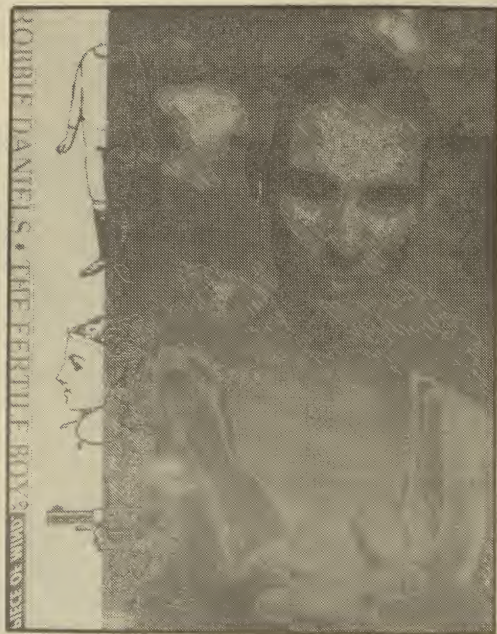
But anyone who would accuse D. of taking himself or his music too seriously should check out this album's opener. On "The Introduction" the singer gives a long-winded speech about himself, much like the self-aggrandizing spiels of some rappers, only this one is totally tongue-in-cheek. The cut has D. swinging amusing bullshit about his vocal talents, elaborating on his "resonating soprano which makes even the most brute and violent man cry bitter tears" and his "enchanted alto ranges which once received a rave review from the *Queen of Europe*."

The great "Introduction" is followed by the lame "vocal improv," "Five Minutes Ago," and the hit-and-miss pattern holds for the rest of the album. But even many of the weaker tracks here are marked by D's fierce wit and originality. This is especially

Even many of the weaker tracks here are marked by D's fierce wit and originality.

true of the album's cover songs, where he chooses fresh, unlikely targets for queer ridicule/worship.

The first cover takes on the little bit country, little bit rock 'n' roll Juice Newton and her hit "Angel of the Morning." Newton, who shares honors with Kim Carnes as one of the early '80s most memorably terrible female vocalists, is easy prey for campy parody, but that's not what we get here. D. offers a moody, Euro-discoish reworking of "Angel," turning the lightweight pop tune into something dark and compelling. Not that he's totally reverent. He can't resist fucking with the lyrics on occa-



Robbie D.: Tongue in cheek — and elsewhere.

sion, as on the line, "Just slap my cheek before you leave me."

Displaying an affinity for down-home gals, D. dedicates another of his revamps, this time of the gospel fave "Amazing Grace," to actress Sissy Spacek. The cut weaves samples from Spacek's "Coal Miner's Daughter" with a



chugging train rhythm, beautifully sparse acoustic guitar, and D's tortured vocals, creating a hymn that's unexpectedly cohesive and haunting. It's unfortunately followed by an expendable "organ jig" remix.

As for D's original songs, the best are "Rosalita," a slow, hazy slab of psychobluues, and "Paradise Island," a boppy dance tune that should appeal to anyone already nostalgic for '80s new wave. Too many of the other originals consist of D's "vocal improvs," which basically have him rambling into the mike. These improvs are an inventive idea, and would probably work well in a live setting where the spontaneity and risk involved would seem more palpable. On disc it just seems pointless.

On the basis of *The Fertile Boy*, this psychotic Mormon death popster shows tons of promise, but isn't ready to have superstar attached to his name ... yet. On future efforts D. should chuck the improvs, work on his originals, and most importantly, hook up with a good producer. It's no mere coincidence that the best song here, "Angel of the Morning," is the only one D. didn't produce himself.

Editor's Note: *The Fertile Boy* is available from *Piece Of Mind Records*, 1126 Folsom St., San Francisco, CA 94103.

Cat Howdy
The Homosexualization of U.S. Culture
Baby Faze

Cat Howdy is a sample-happy duo made up of locals G. Miller Marlin and David S. Willers, who combine sound bites from sermons, speeches, and movies — most all addressing racial or gay issues — with synthesized dance rhythms. On *The Homosexualization of U.S. Culture*, it all gets a little didactic after a while; there's only so much politically correct ranting a person can take. Besides, the whole thing's recorded so crudely that much of the found dialogue is difficult to



David S. Willers

understand and some is pure sludge.

There's no pleasure in listening to Cat Howdy, but, then, that's not the point. The Cats would probably argue that their goal is to enlighten more than entertain. What the group doesn't seem to realize is that there are acts out there today — Consolidated and the Disposable Heroes of Hiphoprisy to name a couple — that can do both. ▼

Editor's Note: *The Homosexualization of U.S. Culture* is available from *Baby Faze Records and Tapes*, 45 Pearl St., San Francisco, CA 94103.

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By David Demchuk, Ricardo Garufi, Christopher Willey

Directed by Arturo Catricala, John Hogan, Steve Omlid

Starring Nicole G. Brown, Anthea Fane, Geoff Florito,
Greg Hoffman, Greg Lucey, David Perez

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Performance

Audacious Queen of the Nile

by Karl Bruce Knapper

Nefertiti, the Pyramid Queen or How Someone Almost Shot Off My Wig As I Was Trying to Get On-stage Tonight — now there's a mouthful. The ambitious title of John S. Patterson's one-man show hints at a wild and wacky evening, which is exactly what the New York performer delivers in his satiric look at homophobia, nationalism, and Afrocentrism in the black community.

Despite some technical glitches and the non-appearance of the aforementioned wig, Patterson's piece is rip-roaring fun, with an African-American accent.

"I am a product of the public library," exclaims the vivacious black drag queen Nefertiti as she reads the beads — and criticizes the minds and methods — of the members of an Afrocentric group that has threatened her life and imprisoned her in a broom closet.

Her crime? A proud and defiant drag queen, she has had the temerity to sing her own distinctive paean to self-esteem and economic development ("If I Can't Sell It, I'm a Sit Down on It") at their International Black African Peoples Ancestry Summit for Self-Determination and Economic Development (IBAPASDED).

Scathing Wit

Afrocentrism is not the only sacred cow of the black community that comes in for the laserlike scrutiny of Nefertiti's scathing wit and scorn. Black churches, nationalism, and unreconstructed Marxism/socialism/left-wing philosophy also bear the brunt of her caustic tongue.

Nefertiti says, "They're crazy and totally crazed when it comes to this black cultural history bullcrap. Know why they want to beat me to a pulp? Because they manufacture rules. Talk much crap about economic development. But all they actually produce is rules. ... About how people are supposed to behave here and now based on some fantasy they have about how folks behaved way back in some kind of unspecified African time and place ... which they ain't never seen and have only badly imagined. Makes me sick."

Alter Ego Speaks

Actor John Patterson, Nefertiti's alter ego, says that "Nefertiti is the voice I have heard in my head for a year or so, responding to the madness of nationalism, separatism, and religious homophobia — the whole last-ditch effort being mounted to blunt the empowerment of lesbians and gay men. I'm a man who served 'honorably' in the U.S. Army for two years, by lying. I fought in the civil rights movement, one of the main events of which — the 1963 March on Washington — was organized by Bayard Rustin, a black gay man I met on sev-



John S. Patterson delivers as "Nefertiti."

eral occasions.

"It is, therefore, especially painful for me to watch so many black leaders 'integrate' themselves into the mainstream backwardness which

oppressed by ignorance and bigotry simply because of who and what they are will be able to understand and empathize with Nefertiti's heartfelt anger. She refuses to be put down or to crawl back into the closet to please those who refuse to understand her.

**Nefertiti is an
ebullient
black drag
queen who
will take a
back seat to
no one's
stupidity,
ignorance, or
bigotry.**

Patterson attempts to make the show relevant to San Francisco audiences by naming places, clubs, and streets with which locals would be familiar. This strategy rings slightly false, though it does underscore the fact that San Francisco does not have as large and visible a black community as New York or Chicago. One appreciates the attempt to make the material more immediate to a San Francisco audience, but the net result is that the play loses a bit of its poignancy and power.

This, however, is but a small quibble about such an exciting and audacious performance piece. Nefertiti takes no prisoners and does not apologize for what she is. She is an ebullient black drag queen who will take a back seat to no one's stupidity, ignorance, or bigotry, the kind of ancestor who has made it a little easier for so many of us to lead proud lives as queers, lesbians, gays, bisexuals, or transgenderists.

seeks to destroy all my gay brothers and sisters in the name of God and good government. Gore Vidal has repeatedly stated that the only thing Americans really understand is a kick in the teeth. Well, this is my theatrical 'kick in the teeth.'"

Proud, Rebellious

And what a kick it is. No one can remain unmoved by Nefertiti's proud, rebellious stand against the ignorance and prejudice prevalent in her own communities, particularly those of us who grew up in the communities she so eloquently criticizes.

But anyone who has known what it is like to be

So does Nefertiti ever get out of that proverbial broom closet and finds happiness, love, freedom, and her own self-empowerment? The answer's at Josie's Cabaret. ▼

Nefertiti, the Pyramid Queen ...
Josie's Cabaret, through Sept. 5
861-7933

Civics Lessons

by Roberto Friedman

Blessed are we who live in the Bay Area, where having a social conscience is not considered a liability. Engagement with the imperfect political world and a proclivity for progressive social activism characterize many of our arts institutions as well. Never a stranger to social issues, the Artists Committee of the San Francisco Art Institute has now given us the 112th Annual Exhibition, which this year calls itself "The Voice of Citizenry: Artists and Communities in Collaboration." The seven artists' groups invited to contribute to the show all take a pro-active stance toward improving their communities. They're people-involved, do-good artists in a feel-good world.

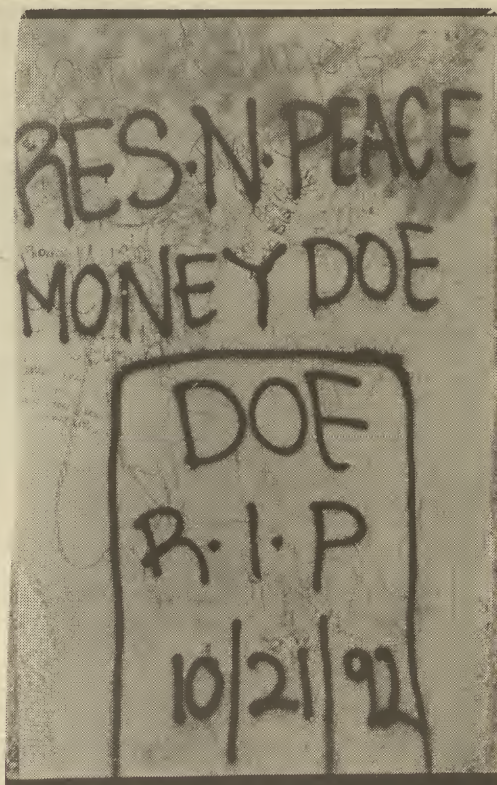
The first image which strikes one upon entering the Art Institute's Walter/McBean Gallery is the *Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness* poster commissioned by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation a few years ago for an educational campaign targeting young men. No doubt you remember the poster: two shirtless, fresh-faced lads wrapped in the American flag offer a foil-wrapped condom enticingly. It's difficult to conceive of this image in any other way than how it was intended — the boys exude such a puppy-dog innocence, a playful sexuality. However, hate-mongers will find threats to the American way where none exist, as evidenced by a video of the odious Lou Sheldon parading his insecurities on broadcast television.

The SF AIDS Foundation has by now developed a track record of commissioning striking graphic imagery for its prevention campaigns.

It is the doing, the community-building work, which yields the art moment.

Also on view here are several *Be Here for the Cure* campaign posters, portraits of San Franciscans living with HIV photographed by celebrity lenswoman Annie Leibovitz. Leibovitz's gift for creating intimate, empathetic portraiture is nicely set off by the subjects' declarations of survival, written across their image in their own hand. There's also a poster from this summer's *Street Smarts* campaign, a photo of a stylish young hustler illustrating the slogan "No Condom No Date!"

In a similar spirit of public-mindedness, the artists Margaret Crane and Jon Winet have created a set of 13 wallet-sized cards containing vital information about social services in Marin County. The



Toni Lane, the RIP Project, from *The Voice of Citizenry: Artists and Communities in Collaboration*.

cards, appealing in their slick design and collect 'em/trade 'em format, were distributed to agencies and the public library in English and Spanish. Crane/Winet's project, *The Days of Our Lives*, is a fine example of smart design and an art sensibility used for the public good.

Liveliest Installation

The remaining five projects all feature artists working in collaboration with downtrodden communities. The liveliest of these installations is a collection of artifacts from Cultural Odyssey's *Medea Project*, a theatre workshop developed by acclaimed performance artist Rhodessa Jones for women inmates at San Bruno County Jail. The tableaux on exhibit, re-creations of altars used in such productions as *Food Taboos in the Land of the Dead*, are colorful assemblages of the prisoners' artwork and poetry, traces of their survivor souls.

One altar includes a dish of Skittles, with an explanatory text: "Because cigarettes have been abolished and are considered contraband, Skittles have become the new drug of choice." Voices of the disenfranchised incarcerated population come through loud and clear in the *Medea Project's* performance archives.

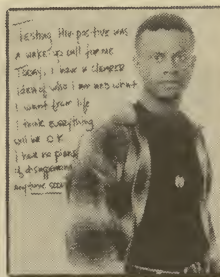
Another people fighting for visibility, the Bay Area Filipino-American community, is represented by a project of the DIWA Arts group. A large chalkboard inscribed with an outline of goals, problem-identifying, and affirmations is the product of what seems to be a meeting/process/art event, based upon the documenting video. The preservation of the chalkboard immediately recalls

artists. With Beuys, and with the Annual's artwork as well, the chalkboards or other artifacts are not the primary facet of the art. It is the doing, the community-building work, which yields the art moment.

The strongest work on display in terms of the immediacy and potency of its content is Toni Lane's documentation, in photography and video, of the devastation wreaked upon the Hayes Valley Public Housing Community in the form of the senseless violence

which attends crack cocaine. The R.I.P.s of young men and women, memorials in spray paint on project walls, are painfully but forthrightly recorded. Lane, proprietor of Ethnic Trip gallery in Hayes Valley, also documents a yearly casket-carrying ceremony in front of City Hall, representing true casualties of urban poverty and drug violence.

Two projects created by senior art programs at St. Mary's Community Center in Oakland, coordinated by artist Roxanne Hills, bring more underrepresented voices into the fray. Message art from *No Place to Stay* and *Alternatives to Violence: Talking Together* has the refreshing naive hand of children's art, along with the weight of adult concerns, as seen in the text, "Homeless Why? Rent's Too High," in one piece. It's nice to find some good positive gay stuff among the elders' artwork. One picture signed "Alfee! '92" sports the legend "The Faeries Grow Taller" beside a smiling flower thriving at the White Horse Bar.



Be Here for the Cure. Get Early Treatment for HIV. Call 1-800-367-2437

One of Annie Leibovitz's *Be Here for the Cure* campaign posters.

Finally, the most effectively installed project is that representing CAMP, the Clarion Alley Mural Project, the work of a coalition of artists and neighborhood residents. Door panels encoded with graffiti enclose a space hung with panoramic photo collages of the alley. On the floor, a map of Clarion's location in the Mission District. CAMP is further documented by video; in fact, the entire exhibition drives home the indispensable place video has carved out for itself in the toolbags of contemporary art. Five out of seven installations in *The Voice of Citizenry* rely on video monitors to convey at least part of their story. That's a lot of social conscience unspooling in those camcorders. ▼

The Voice of Citizenry
Walter/McBean Gallery (San Francisco Art Institute), through September 25
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HOT HOUSE LOUNGE

The White Oak Dance Project Visits Berkeley

Modern Masters

by Eric Hellman

Summer dance doldrums came to an end last Friday night when Cal Performances launched its new fall season, presenting the newly reinvented Mikhail Baryshnikov and the White Oak Dance Project. There was great cause for rejoicing — both in the dancers and the dances (despite a not-so-riveting contribution by Mark Morris, the normally brilliant, pioneering choreographer).

My only big regret was that there weren't more local choreographers/dancers in the audience. Because the White Oak artists are doing everything that is *not* happening at the Bay Area Dance Series, or Theatre Artaud's Summer-time Dance Project (currently in progress), or the Footwork Studio's Edge Festival (judging from past encounters).

What, then, are the ingredients of White Oak's excellence? For one, this small ensemble (there are only six dancers including Baryshnikov) clearly values bodies that are well-trained: the performers move with a combination of precision, control, and grace. Secondly, White Oak appears to be committed to making work that responds — rhythmically and choreographically — to difficult, serious music. On Friday, some of the musical selections included Gershwin's "Three Piano Preludes," two string quartets by 20th-century composer Henry Cowell, and a se-

lection of movements by Giovanni Pergolesi.

Third, the White Oak Project seems to be a dance organization where an economy of means receives priority consideration. And this results in a minimum of sets, props, or other (expensive) paraphernalia. Similarly, there are no speeches from the dancers, no film clips or other multimedia distractions, and no attempts at personal therapy or the resolution of global crises within the dancing.

White Oak is doing what many of our local performers either refuse to do or are unable to envision.

Instead, the White Oak group appears to be centered on an exploration of the idea of art — and its potential for complex human expression. Both simple and radical in approach, White Oak is doing what many of our local performers either refuse to do or are unable to envision.

Witty and Debonair

Friday's program included five dances, beginning with Baryshnikov's interpretation of Morris' now famous solo piece, *Three Preludes* (set to the Gershwin preludes). Unlike the choreographer's portly profile and almost campy interpretation when previously seen dancing this piece, Baryshnikov was absolutely razor-sharp, witty, and debonair in a Fred Astaire-goes-postmodern sort of way.

The program also featured a relatively new piece by Morris, a dance for five performers called *Mosaic and Untied*. As previously noted, this wasn't one of the choreographer's best works, and the problems result, I suspect, from the episodic, undeveloped nature of the music. Set to two string quartets by Henry Cowell, the dancing was fragmented and never seemed to communicate any clear statement of artistic intention.

The best piece on Friday's program, a revelation, really, was the reconstruction of Hanya Holm's *Jocose*. Holm, for the record, was one of the early pioneers in expressionist modern dance and the individual responsible for bringing Mary Wigman's ideas to America. *Jocose* is an abstract, witty dance, full of runs and spinning for the five dancers and lots of slow, quirky humor.

It also appeared to be a vaguely narrative piece, a mating game of sorts. Divided into three sections, the two



Mikhail Baryshnikov, newly reinvented, with White Oak dancer Kate Johnson.

men and three women initially establish their distance; later they connect, but only with a mixture of trepidation and suspicion; and finally, they celebrate their interchange with one another. The score, Maurice Ravel's "Sonata for Violin and Piano" reminded me of how lyrical and astrigent a modern composition can be.

White Oak's very full evening of dance also included a series of solo variations for Baryshnikov called *Pergolesi*, choreographed by Twyla Tharp and previously seen in the Bay Area, a work that surveys a multitude of ballet clichés with great

knowledge and good humor. Also featured was a short duet for dancers Kate Johnson and Kevin O'Day called *White Man Sleeps*, choreographed by O'Day and set to a contemporary quartet by Kevin Volans.

In a nutshell, there was so much pleasure, craft, and intelligence in the performances by the White Oak dancers that one wishes they would have remained for a week's worth of performances. It would also be nice if more of our local, aspiring dancers and choreographers would turn on to the serious fun — and serious art — that White Oak represents. ▼

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Theatre

'Loverguys' at Theatre Rhinoceros

Identity Seekers

by Jerry Metzger

It's fitting that, after all the gay and lesbian headlines of the past few months and as school begins for the year with more lesbian and gay studies programs and classes as part of the university curriculum, Theatre Rhinoceros should present *Loverguys*. Although very different in approach than a college course, the three one-acts which comprise this evening in the theatre seek to understand exactly what is the gay identity.

In *Honeymoon Suite*, playwright Richard Garufi spins a kind of film noir tale in which a former gangster and his male moll (complete with squeaky voice) are confronted by a mob representative. Instead of cowering or running out of town, the lovers force the gangster into participating in their marriage ceremony. Then they release him to report back to the boss.

David Damuchik's *Touch* has a male couple deconstructing the fantasies of pornography. Where straight porn has long been touted as being exploitive of women, Damuchik suggests that gay

porn reinforces the straight notion of homosexuals as perverted. The couple struggles to talk about what they feel about themselves and each

Damuchik suggests that gay porn reinforces the straight notion of homosexuals as perverted.

other and what porn means to them.

Playwright Christopher Wiley's *An Appointment With Mr. Hugo* also seems to be exploring identity. The Mr. Hugo of the title is the "world's greatest wedding designer," and a gay couple are long-suffering clients only days away from their nuptials. When two lesbians crash into Mr. Hugo's office, they

(Continued on next page)

White Bird of Happiness

by Roberto Friedman

Because we've been excluded from mainstream traditions for so long, gay men have had to find new paths to spirituality," says Robert Barzan, editor and founder of the San Francisco-based quarterly *White Crane Newsletter*, currently celebrating its fourth year of publication exploring gay male spirituality. Considering the number of gay ministers, priests, rabbis, gurus, and all manner of shaman among our ranks, gay spirituality is a topic ripe for discussion, but except for the pages of the *White Crane*, *RFD*, and a handful of Lavender Pagan newsletters, issues of a spiritual bent tend to get short shrift in the gay press.

If you've ever paged through the journal named for the Asian symbol of holistic happiness, you know that the *White Crane's* contributors bring their readers insight into a wide range of non-traditional spiritual paths. Barzan and company have found "an unexpected spiritual dimension to a great many things of interest to gay men, including dancing, the environment, certain sex techniques, and even drag."

In the Mix

This potpourri of spiritual outlets ensures an eclectic blend of articles. One recent issue, for example, included an essay on Aelrid of Rievaulx, known as "the Ab-

bot who loved"; a sample ritual invocation, "Casting the Circle"; an installation of the ongoing Gay Myth Series, this time on Poseidon ("As with most other Greek gods, Poseidon was not without his homosexual relationships"); and a proposal from Joseph Kramer of the Body Electric

**Spiritual
quests are
ultimately
about
transcending
the limitations
of our
physical
bodies and
mental
constructs.**

School for a new term for masturbation, "soloving": "If ten percent of the times we 'jacked off' we were actually making love with ourselves we would be transformed individuals." And this is just the tip of the proverbial iceberg.

In the latest issue, Darrell g.h. Schramm takes notice of all those headless torsos in gay media and commerce, lamenting the obsessive pursuit of the Body Beautiful in

which "we attempt to show the world" this is who I am: these pecs, these biceps, these lats and abdominals — these are me." Schramm asks, "How did we get to this point, this place where we try to force all meaning from the human body as a fetish?"

We are apt, in these pages, to be challenged to work our spiritual muscles as well as our abs. One issue is themed "Courage," another "Forgiveness." Barzan has contributed "Reinhabiting: Exercises in Native Spirituality," a list of 26 suggested activities to get back in touch with the land, a list created with city-dwellers in mind.

Cautionary Eye

Partly what is refreshing about *White Crane* is its clear-eyed skepticism regarding a spiritual panacea to our worldly woes. As in many journals, its liveliest passages are frequently found among the letters to the editor. Barzan encourages readers' accounts of their successes and failures on their spiritual journeys. Reader Michael Corrigan writes in one letter, "Spirituality has become a commodity (as Art has), a controlled commodity that is carefully doled out by those who 'know us better than ourselves' in order to keep us wanting just enough to be gullible and easy to manipulate." Such healthy suspicion

Number 13

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White Crane

Journal for the exploration of gay men's spirituality



**Mysticism of Sex • Lavender Greens
Aelred of Rievaulx • Green Man**

of the workings of capitalism is part of a true learning process, which is how the *White Crane* posits a spiritual quest. Reflections on ritual, meditation, yoga and the nature of religion are all grist for this particular mill.

Even a high-minded venture like this runs afoul of some controversy. Readers in radical faery circles remember the flap a few issues back when Arthur Evans, author of the seminal *Witchcraft and*

the Gay Counterculture (published by Fag Rag, 1978), recounted the early days of the San Francisco Faery Circle and deflated alleged claims of Harry Hay to have started the faery phenomenon by calling a 1979 gathering. While Evans' memoirs are marvelous and undoubtedly invaluable for gay history, the dispute over the origin of the faery movement ultimately comes down to contesting egos and a cult of personality.

(Continued on page 52)



David Perez, left, with Greg Hoffman in *Loverguys*.

(Photo: Steve Savage)

(Continued from previous page)

proceed to spout off about lesbian and gay pride and promote by gunpoint the idea that gays and lesbians should create their own kind of partnership rituals.

One Ensemble

Although each play had a different director, they had the same acting ensemble. I particularly liked Greg Hoffman, who plays the macho former gangster in *Honeymoon Suite* and the precious personal assistant in *An Appointment With Mr. Hugo*.

However, as the cornerstone of the ensemble with roles in all three plays, David C. Perez is pushed beyond his acting capabilities. In the second play, he merely recites his lines as if he had just memorized them.

I did like Geoff Fiorito and Greg Lucy in *Honeymoon Suite*, but found them weak

in their other roles. In Fiorito's case, he was crippled by the sentimentality of his character in *Touch*. In *An Appointment With Mr. Hugo*, Lucy was downright annoying.

Still, the ensemble cast does reinforce the unity of the plays. Now that coming-out stories or AIDS stories are not the only stories we have, what other stories can we tell? Where and how do we fit into heterosexual-based history and what is our own history? As public persons, who are we and how do we just be ourselves? It's good that artists are exploring these questions, and even though the three plays here fail to provide any fresh insights, at least they are a step in the right direction. ▼

Loverguys
Theatre Rhinoceros, through
Sept. 19
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S.F. Opera's Puzzling New Season

Art or Bust

by Paul Thomason

The San Francisco Opera's Fall 1993 season opens September 10 with what I suspect will be the highlight of the season: a new production of Verdi's *I Vespri Siciliani* featuring a cast I doubt could be bettered anywhere in the world. Carol Vaness, Chris Merritt and Timothy Noble (the same singers from 1992's *William Tell*) will be joined by bass James Morris and principle guest conductor Sir Charles Mackerras in the company's premier of Verdi's seldom done work. If you truly love opera, move heaven and earth to catch this one.

"You don't do *Vesperi* unless you've got the artists for it," says Lotfi Mansouri, the company's general director. "If I couldn't get Carol Vaness and Chris Merritt I couldn't do it. The singers have to have agility, passion, strength and presence. Vaness is a born Elena."

Elena offers a singer everything: ardent emotional fireworks, meltingly lyric phrases, and a fiendish performing range (in one phrase she sings a descending chromatic scale of two and a half octaves, from high C to low F-sharp below middle C). It is a role which exposes any vocal shortcomings a singer might have. Vaness has lost 55 pounds since she sang here last October, a fact which concerns some opera aficionados who equate Maria Callas's vocal problems with her rapid weight loss. But I'm betting Vaness's performances in *Vesperi* will give new meaning to the word *slancio*.

The upcoming production, by Christopher Alden and designer Paul Steinberg, cuts the ballet entirely and sets the opera in the mid-nineteenth century, rather than the 1200s of the libretto. "There's so much passion for political independence in *Vesperi*, it's very much like the passion for a united Italy in Verdi's own time," says Mansouri, who adds that setting the

opera in Verdi's era makes it "much more immediate" for today's audiences.

Marton Redux

The only other new production this season is Puccini's *Turandot*, opening October 7. Designed by British painter David Hockney, it is a co-production with Chicago's Lyric Opera where it premiered last season. (A new production of Wagner's *Meistersinger* was scrapped for lack of funds.) The performances, with Eva Marton in the title role, will be taped for telecast and videotape release, a perfect example, of the increasing tendency in the world of opera for non-musical concerns to run the show.



Carol Vaness in *Vesperi*.

Marton recorded *Turandot* in Vienna shortly after she began singing the role, then re-recorded it for laser disc and videotape at the Met when the Zeffirelli production was new. The productions at the Met were far from her best performances, and recent recordings show an almost constant wobble in her top voice, the part most crucial in *Turandot*. One can only question the reasons behind a third permanent record of



Soprano Eva Marton sings the title role in *Turandot*.

(Photo: Tony Romano)

Marton in the role, especially one made at this stage of her career.

But apparently, David Hockney's current reputation outweighs musical concerns; future generations will therefore be able to witness a less-than-stellar cast coping with Puccini's music, courtesy of the San Francisco Opera. How sad, especially when the company's superb *Vesperi* is not being saved for posterity.

Although *Meistersinger* did not get a new production, beginning October 28, local Wagnerites will still be able to enjoy "the Master's" only comedy. And since *Die Meistersinger von Nurnberg* is five hours long, it is good news that company music director Donald Runnicles will be conducting a promising cast that includes Bernd Weikl and Jan-Hendrik Rootering making their local debuts as Hans Sachs and Pogner. Since heldentenors are perpetually in short supply (just try naming three good ones currently performing) don't miss the chance to catch Ben Heppner as Walther. Karita Mattila as Eva, Catherine Keen as Magdalene, and Lars Magnusson as David all promise to be uncommonly good. Unfortunately Hakan Hagegard, who was to assume the role of Beckmesser for the first time

in his career, withdrew to have elective surgery. Replacing him will be Robert Orth in his company debut.

Leonie Rysanek offers yet another in her gallery of incomparable performances in *The Queen of Spades*.

This season has been criticized for not offering a modern opera, (last season had two: Britten's 1960 *Midsummer Night's Dream* and Adams's 1991 *Death of Klinghoffer*) but Mansouri stoutly insists Janacek's *The Makropulous Case* is this season's contemporary work. It is the opera written most recently, but since it premiered in 1926, a few months after Puccini's *Turandot*, "contemporary" seems something of a misnomer.

Opera-goers unfamiliar with Janacek's music might want to bone up on *The Makropulous Case* before attending performances which open October 14. Fortunately the CD of the opera is conducted by Mackerras, the world's leading authority on Janacek's music, and features Elisabeth Soderstrom as the 337-year-old Emilia Marty. (Soderstrom is co-directing the San Francisco performances with Mansouri.) There is also a video version starring Stephanie Sundine who will make her local debut in the opera. Among other reasons to see this riveting drama are Tom Fox (a magnetic Jochanaan in *Salome* this summer) as Prus and Graham Clark, a truly outstanding singing actor who will debut as Gregor.

Gottterdammerung?

The great Leonie Rysanek offers yet another in her gallery of incomparable performances when

Tchaikovsky's *The Queen of Spades* opens November 23. I am told that when Rysanek was asked this summer if these performances of the Countess would be her San Francisco farewell, she refused to reply. But she was born in 1926 (you can figure it out for yourself), and when she retires, opera as a living expression of archetypes will pretty much cease to exist.

Donizetti's delightful comic opera *Fille du Regiment* opens September 11 with Kathleen Battle and Frank Lopardo who will probably not do it justice. However, in an inspired bit of casting, Mollie Sugden, best known as Mrs. Slocombe in the BBC-TV sitcom *Are You Being Served?* is making her company debut in the small speaking role of the Duchess of Krakenthorp. Bellini's achingly beautiful *I Puritani* (November 16) either stands or falls on the performance of the soprano and June Anderson is unlikely to change the mind of anyone who (wrongly) dismisses *Puritani* as "a nice coupla tunes, but god is it dull."

The season also includes the company's first performances of Mozart's *La Clemenza di Tito* (with FredERICA von Stade) opening



Mollie Sugden serves up a delightful Duchess of Krakenthorp.

November 7, and Puccini's ever-popular *La Boheme* (Ann Panagoulas as Musetta) opening September 19. ▼

Editor's Note: The San Francisco Opera's Fall season runs from September 10 through December 12. Ticket prices range from \$36 to \$115. For more information call (415) 864-3330.

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New York Poet Eileen Myles

Presidential Material

by Jenni Olson

I am always hungry/and wanting to have/sex. This is a fact.

So begins "Peanut Butter" from Eileen Myles' most recent collection of poetry, *Not Me* (Semiotexte, \$10). The 42-year-old New York-based poet has been writing since the 1970s. Branching out into politics last year as a write-in presidential candidate, she merged art and politics in a unique year-long campaign which took her to 20 states across the country, as well as Mexico and Canada. Keeping her supporters informed through a series of campaign letters, Myles expressed her platforms on everything from reproductive rights to the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Myles' campaign received some mainstream media coverage (MTV even interviewed her), and although Clinton won the race, she says of her campaign, "As an artist and poet it provided tons of opportunities for me to make speeches and make my work become more political."

Discussing her evolution as a writer, Myles recalls, "I didn't come out till I was 27... my poetry really took off when I came out. Falling in love and writing poems seemed like the same gesture." She explains that per-

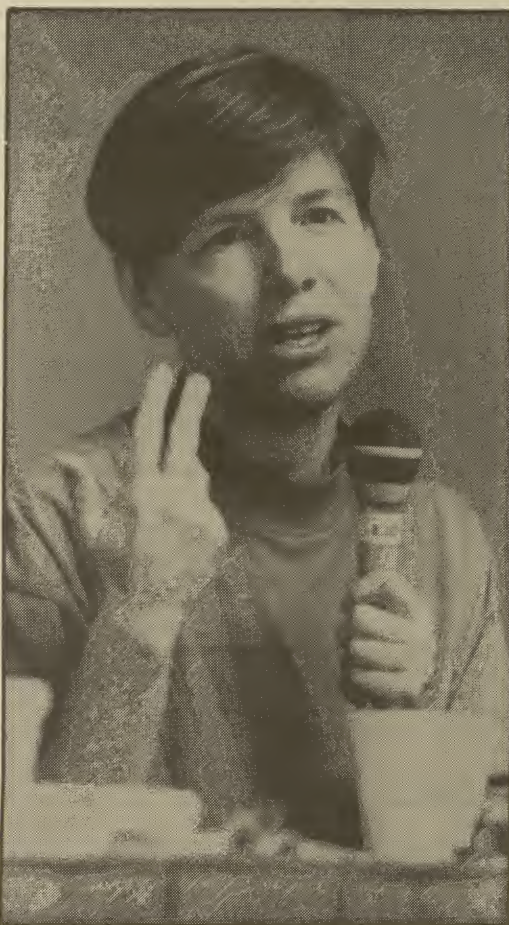
sonal changes in her life led to political changes in her work: "I stopped drinking almost ten years ago — my work started to get political when I got sober."

With her sensual vocabulary and dry sense of humor, Myles entwines the personal and the political in both her prose and her poetry. In "A Poem" (from *Not Me*), she touches on relationships, world views, and the meaning of art:

Symbolically/I want my black jersey back. Realistically/you must give it to me because I will keep/talking to your machine if you don't./Our mayor is a murderer, our president/is a killer, Jean Harris is still not/free, which leads me to question the/ethics of our governor who I thought/was good. There is an argument/for poetry being deep but I am not that argument.

Lesbian Label

Myles identifies as a "lesbian poet" but acknowledges that she has little in common with the canon of lesbian poets that includes Adrienne Rich. The pitfall of "being labeled a lesbian artist," Myles notes, "is that [people think] it tells you something about content. But I know it doesn't. It simply tells you something about me. And there is a gap between me and my work."



To poet Eileen Myles, "Falling in love and writing poetry seemed like the same gesture." (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Myles is busy with a number of projects these days. She's working on a screenplay of her book *1969* (Harcourt Books), and she has another collection of poems and a collection of stories awaiting a publisher. She's also the subject of a campaign documentary, *Poet in the Ring* (made by her girlfriend, filmmaker Jennifer Montgomery). Look for it coming soon to a lesbian and gay film festival near you.

"I stopped drinking almost ten years ago — my work started to get political when I got sober."

Although her presidential campaign is over, her political campaign is only just beginning. "Ending things is my favorite part — the poet part, full of death and incredibly sweet," she writes in her final campaign letter. "At this point I can say any damn thing I want." ▼

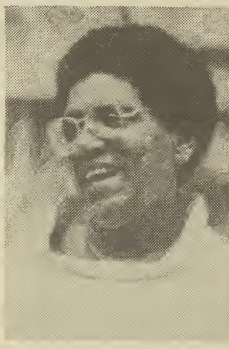
Editor's Note: Eileen Myles will read from her current collection of poetry, Not Me, at A Different Light Bookstore on Tuesday, Sept. 7, at 7:30 p.m.

Audre Lorde Memorial Prose Prize

Woman in the Moon Publications, a black-owned, woman-owned book publisher, announces the first annual Audre Lorde Memorial Prose Prize. The \$500 prize will be divided into fiction and non-fiction categories and given in the name of Audre Lorde (1934-1992), the African-Caribbean feminist poet and writer. This award will honor Lorde's memory and her commitment to political and social change.

The contest is open to all feminist writers who write fiction or prose. The work submitted should take up a topic of discourse found in the work of Lorde or seek to illustrate a condition, idea, or ideal inherent in her fiction or prose.

Fiction and nonfiction submissions are to be 500-7000 words in length, typed, double-spaced, and submitted in triplicate to 2215-R Market St., Box 137, San Francisco, CA 94114. All work must be original and unpublished. Stories and essays are to be submitted between Sept. 1 and Nov. 17. Contestants are to include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return of manuscript, plus an index card with the name of the piece, the writer's own name, address, and phone number. The author's name is not to appear on the manuscript. A submissions fee of \$10 is required.



The late Audre Lorde.

The winning manuscripts will be read by the editors at Woman in the Moon and an outside feminist juror familiar with Lorde's work. By special arrangement, both manuscripts will be considered for publication in *Essence* and *The San Francisco Review of Books*, fiction and nonfiction publishers, respectively.

If neither is published by these periodicals, a monograph of the winning essay and short story will be published. The monograph may be offered through Woman in the Moon pending negotiations with the author. The winners will be announced on Feb. 18, Lorde's birthday. ▼



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BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS AND FITNESS

To Your Health

Dealing With Stress

by Dianne Aaronson

In my last column I addressed the topic of stress and the link between various stressors and disease. This column will focus on some possible solutions.

Remember that stress comes in a variety of forms. When it comes our way via environmental pollutants, it initially assaults our physical beings. Less tangible stressors — such as a dissatisfying job, difficult marriage, or relocation to another geographic area — will first affect our psyches. However, as it is difficult to separate one from the other, especially when discussing stress, the inevitable outcome will be that both body and psyche are affected adversely. How well we learn to cope with the stresses in

our lives will have a dramatic impact on the state of living and dying in the 20th century.

Obviously, the best way to deal with these assaults on our health and well-being is to eliminate them. And while this is not always possible or practical, there are some steps we can take toward this goal.

Take environmental pollutants, for example. Though some things cannot be changed except with mass political lobbying (e.g., air pollution laws, the use of certain chemicals in industry, etc.), there are things we can avoid in our personal lives to give our immune systems a break. I assume that my immune system can only handle so much at a time, and so my approach is to eliminate as many toxins within my control so that I have a reserve available.

There are many environmentally safe alternatives to household cleaners, laundry soaps, air fresheners, and pet supplies that can give you that extra edge in building up immune system reserves. Just smelling some of those typical supermarket products (you don't even need to read the label!) will give you a clue as to how toxic they are. Number one on my list of things to avoid are pesticides. They don't just do a number on the bugs, believe me. I get a headache whenever I'm near that stuff.

Food can also be an allergen and a source of stress to the body. Many of us are so used to not feeling up to par that we forget to pay attention to what makes us not feel so good. If your sinuses get stuffed up or you retain fluid every time you eat a wheat, dairy, or sugar product, you are probably having an allergic reaction. So stop! There are so many alternatives to wheat, dairy, and sugar available to us in San Francisco health food stores that you probably won't even notice the difference. Similarly, if you suspect that your system reacts to caffeine, go decaf.

Another potential toxin we can eliminate is prescription and over-the-counter drugs, whenever possible. Obviously, individuals suffering from chronic, life-threatening diseases are required to take certain medications. If we have hay fever or a headache, however, we do not necessarily need to grab for something off the shelves of a pharmacy.

Why add insult to injury? Again, we have such an array of alternative treatments to choose from, such as herbal remedies (which only help and do not assault our systems further as most medications do), it no longer makes sense to do things the old way. Ten, twenty, fifty years ago, human immune systems had less smog and factory pollution to deal with, so the negative effects of a cold medication were more easily dealt with. Now, bombarded from all sides as we are, we can't afford to spend our reserves on something so meaningless.

Other obvious preventive actions include conscientious cleaning and vacuuming of your living space if you believe you are allergic to dust, mold, or animal hair — and you have any furry creatures co-habiting with you.

Coping Mechanisms

But what to do about the less tangible causes of stress, like a dead-end job or a dysfunctional family? If you're convinced these stressors cannot be eliminated or divorced, it's time to learn some coping mechanisms.

Research has shown time after time that individuals who meditate react very dif-



Softball's Sandy

Sandy Ghilarducci was the first woman to ever pitch in the men's competitive division at the Gay World Series. She's now gearing up for next year's Gay Games IV as a member of both Metro Ritas and Team San Francisco. If you're interested in attending GGIV as either a spectator or an athlete, this is the time to join TSF — call (415) 824-8118 — and get the GGIV info you need. A \$100 deposit is due now at Winship Travel and will secure you a room in New York and a plane reservation to get you there. ▼

ferently to these emotional stressors. In addition, their likelihood of illness is considerably less. Unfortunately, the word "meditation" has a lot of charge to it. It evokes pictures of cult followers spending entire days staring blankly at a wall while in the lotus position, waiting for "enlightenment."

Meditation can be anything you want it to be. Basically, it entails focus and concentration. You can focus in on yourself — like your breath or noticing if there is any ten-

are learning to relax your body and slow your breathing at will and to eliminate a lot of the outside "noise" that we are confronted with on a daily basis.

In my last article I mentioned the fight and flight reaction, which is the body's physiological response to a stressful situation. One way of reversing this impulse is by simply breathing into the diaphragm rather than high into the chest. It engages a different part of the autonomic nervous system, the one that tells us that the danger has passed and we can relax again.

Learning to be aware of one's body and one's breath is a valuable first step in detecting early signs of stress. The next steps involve the art of alleviating the pressure. Relaxation is not the only way, of course. A long bike ride or some other physical activity, a creative distraction such as painting or writing, can work just as well. Becoming acquainted with your particular style with regards to stress can be a valuable preventive action against illness.

Remember, though you may have become accustomed to the everyday stressors that affect all of our lives, they still do harm to our body, our psyche, and our immune system. Learning to eliminate and alleviate the pressure whenever possible should be on the top of everyone's priority list. ▼

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How well we learn to cope with the stresses in our lives will have a dramatic impact on the state of living and dying in the 20th century.

sion in your body — or you can close your eyes and look at a blank screen, or you can chant a mantra.

In fact, you don't even have to sit still. You can do Tai Chi, for instance. What form you choose is irrelevant. What does matter is that you

Track & Field

Women Shine at Track Nationals

As the sole representatives of the San Francisco Track and Field Club at this year's U.S. Track and Field National Masters Championships, Valerie Scott and Michele Lewis "did the club proud."

The four-day competition held in Provo, Utah, at Brigham Young University saw over 1200 athletes competing for top honors in the nation.

The SFT&FC had not participated at the National Championships since 1989, when they made their most impressive showing by capturing third place in both the 4x100 and 4x400 relays.

This was the first time Scott and Lewis had ever competed at the highly competitive meet, and for their "premiere" showing at the event, they did very well. Scott was the most ambitious of the dynamic duo, competing in the 400, 200, and 100 meters. She was disappointed in her times (68.75, 29.29, and 14.28 seconds, respectively), but the fact that she progressed from the trials to the finals in each event was ample evidence of her ability to run with the best in the nation. She finished sixth in the 100-meter finals and ninth in the 400 — both very good showings for the National Championships.

She was also asked to compete on the West's 4x100 relay team, which finished second for a silver medal. As leadoff runner, she gave the team an excellent start and



Track stars Michele Lewis, left, and Valerie Scott.

(Photo: Rick Thoman)

was later praised by her teammates for the a job well-done.

"It was the best — and the most — competition I had ever experienced," said Scott. "The whole thing was a little nerve-racking, which may have affected our times here. But it was a great learning experience, and I'll be better prepared to compete at next year's Nationals in Eugene [Oregon]."

Showing Out

Michele Lewis, who has struggled this season due to injuries, finished just ahead of Scott in the 200 meters (with a time of 29.18 seconds) and just behind her in the 100m (at 14.3). Although usually stronger in the 100 than the 200, this season Lewis has

been showing out in the 200 meters.

"I'm not sure why my 200 has been better this season. Maybe because it's usually always after I've run the 100 and I'm more relaxed," commented Lewis. "But overall, I think we did a good job in Utah. To make it to the finals in any event meant beating out 15 to 20 other runners, and I think that's a measure of success in itself."

The San Francisco Track and Field Club has two meets remaining this season. Sunday, Sept. 12, the team competes at the NorCal Seniors meet at UC Berkeley, and then finishes the year at Santa Barbara's Club West Masters meet on Oct. 2.

The club continues to welcome new members regard-

Pool

Confronting the Demons

The player stands at the table, taking aim at a crucial 8-ball shot. Beads of sweat break out as teammates look on nervously. Finally the player strokes: the shot misses badly and the "demons" have scored another victory.

Once you've attained a basic skill level in pool, the demons are your main obstacles to improvement, and there is no quicker path to success than learning new ways to approach the execution of a shot.

One technique is to mentally make the shot as you stand over it. Judge the type and speed of the stroke and the resulting path of the cue ball. Once you go down into your bridge stance, think of nothing but pocketing the ball. Visualize its path to the pocket and imagine its sound as it disappears. Be serene, intent, and focused.

If you feel in any way distracted, no matter what your surroundings, you are not properly prepared. If something about the shot doesn't feel right, make it a habit to stand up and reassess the situation. Never make adjustments when you're down on the ball, and never play a shot you're not committed to. A positive, committed frame of

mind during execution will absolutely improve accuracy and overall success.

Apparent Contenders

After three weeks of fall season action, the contenders for the City Championship are beginning to become apparent. Division II is led by the core of last season's defending champions in Rick Mariani Photography Snapshots. They've assayed three straight 14-2 outings, but face their strongest opponent this week in the second place Pilsner Puppies.

Division IV's Transfer Ballbusters are 28-4 after two hugely successful outings. Borderline Personalities should be nipping at their heels all season.

Division I is currently led by Stud Sluts but look for Marlena's Hyenas to challenge for that position. This division is loaded with potential playoff teams.

Cathy Sutton's Cinch It Up is on top in Division III with prime contenders, International Rays, close behind. The Watering Hole is a newly returned league sponsor whose 6 Pack figures to make a playoff appearance.

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less of age or previous experience. The team invites those interested in joining to attend their training sessions at Kezar Stadium in San Fran-

cisco, Tuesday and Thursday nights at 6 p.m., and Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. For more information, call (415) 550-7966. ▼

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MEN SEEKING RELATIONSHIPS

GWM top sks trim btm under 5'9" for S/M and pos fmdshp and more. B/D, spank,TT, cuddling and kissing a plus. HIVpos and hlthy. Pref a btm who is not wrking in order to shr more grt times and maybe trips out of area. EXT 1000.

BWM, 35, lks 25. Very masc top sks M of color bttms for pos rel. Must be 25-38, in reasonable shape (I am) and be grt lkn (like me) manly smelling armpits really get my attention. BM are a plus. EXT 1001.

Hot Bl Bear btm, 30, HIVneg lkn for well hung aggr GWM top for friendship maybe relationship. EXT 1002.

Masc, athl, Asian, 45, 5'9" sks clean shaven, gym toned, smth, slender or musc WM for fmdshp or more. Enjoy workouts, sports and outdoors, and the arts. EXT 1003.

GWM 40's, br/br, 5'9", 220, sks a man 20-40, adv, honest loves sex. Pos LTR. Enjoys good times together. I have many interests..sex is one. EXT 1033

GM,Amer/Hisp, 32, 5'10", 150, sexy, HIVpos, handsome, healthy, open minded, creative, reg gym goor, seeks GM who are honest, reliable, happy, and are comfortable with themselves and know what makes them happy. LTR minded. Salt and pepper or Redhead and HIVpos a plus, not mandatory. EXT 1038.

GWM daddy/master, 69, 5'8", 155, HIVneg seeks attr 18-40 son or slave for ongoing loving fantasy, friendship EXT 1039.

Blond muscular surfer, hung, 37 seeks other blond, hung men for fun. HIVneg. East Bay. Relationship. EXT 1040.

French GWM, 24, on vacation until October seeks friends 18-35 for sight seeing conversation. San Francisco only. EXT 1041.

I'm 40's, 5'9", HIVneg, would like to meet GWM, 25-40. I'm a neat person to be around. I like personal times. I can put you on a cloud. Pos LTR. Let's meet. EXT 1042.

GWM, 38, hairy, husky, balding and mustache seeks guy 20-30 with attr boyish looks for a poss relationship. I enjoy bicycling and films. EXT 1043.

GWM, stocky, hung, uncut and handsome dad type, 5'10", 185, bms/s and p, healthy and many interest and gd wit seeks masc. hlthy well built sexy man 35-50 for mutual satisfaction, LTR. EXT 1068.

Educated, athletic, cute Asian, 20 seeks hairy, well built W prof, 20-45 for good time and pos more. EXT 1069.

GWM, 23, 6', 155, goodlooking, student, seeking friendship, 21-25, with similar interests. EXT 1070.

Nasty sadistic dad sks masochistic son for total servitude! Anything goes! Seeking LTR. Me 44' 6", not hung, beerbelly. You: Under 35, in shape. EXT 1072.

GWM 38, hairy, husky, balding, w/ mustache and bear looks, seeking guy 20-30 w/ attractive boyish look for boyfriend. EXT 1073.

French GWM, 24 seek SB's frindship kindly, 18-35 in San Francisco until 19 of September. EXT 1074.

Becoming lawyer/stockbroker, handsome wheelchair guy seeks big hearted courageous spiritual guy with self esteem for true love. EXT1075.

Wanted: A man with common sense, loving caring, likes doing things together, nights together, cuddle or whatever. I'm GWM, 40's, HIVneg. YOU: GW/LM. Possible LTR. EXT 1076.

Musc Caus, 36, sks a lean, musc, smooth Asian who is monogomous and relationship oriented to date on a reg basis. Pls no games. EXT 1077.

Handome GWM in Contra Costa Co. 46, 6', 155, Br/Bl, HIVneg, sks same, 30-45 for rltshp. I'm vers, not into bars, gay scene or games. EXT 1078.

MEN SEEKING ADVENTURE

Hot Latin Male seeking hot, hung men who are into tats, pierces, motorcycles, hot sex. Take me for a ride. EXT 1036.

Plowing my hungry hole will please you. GBM, hung tool. Me: WM, 5'11", 170, 50, uncut a plus. EXT 1004.

Wanted: Fat boy hse slave. Must be GR passive for well hung toman, 31. Occ house work required. EXT 1005.

GM 33, 165, hazel/Blk, tan, HIVneg, not into bar scene. Sks sincere GM, 20's who enjoys life. EXT 1016.

GWM. 32 sks over hard greasy man.I suck your dick and piss. Cigar smk and fuck me, dirty talk, slap me and spank. I am your boy under 200 lbs.EXT 1017.

Oral svc for tops w/ 8' plus by GWM, 6'1", 170, yng 40's, Concord area, S.F. good too. EXT 1018.

WM 32 sks yng German M into head shaving, flat top, crew cuts. I'm turned on by the look and feel of fresh stubble. EXT 1019.

BWM, HIVneg, CMT sks erotic massage exchanges. Cock, balls and ass focus. sncls and grps. EXT 1020.

N. Bay 50yo, HIVneg, 7', hot ass! Sks big cocks to sck and fck me on reg bas. My pld. You won't be sorry! EXT 1021.

Big hungry Latin love to suck yng cock. Needs a horny, strigay suck buddy who likes to get off. Let me milk your big dick dry!EXT 1022.

Exhibitionist, leather, hot underwear, photo, toys a turn on? Like getting caressed but also stripped, shaved, spanked by top, 38, 6', 150, cln shaven swimmer? EXT 1023.

Enjoy boating? Sk 18-20yo who would enjoy driving easy-going older man's power cabin cruiser around SF Bay. Pref youthful unjudged openness. No sex required. EXT 1024.

Do you like sex? GLM waits for you (naked) to walk in (door open) to fuck a nice and tight hairy ass and have a gd fucking time. Call eves. EXT 1025.

GWM, 44, 175, 5'10", Br/Bl in EB tired of SF scene. You 20-35, hot btm, like to party. Blondes a plus. N/S, let me cum to you. EXT 1026.

Adventurous N. Bay WM, 29, looking for same. Str, Bi, Gay public individual for fun and great times. EXT 1028.

Lkg to fly a kite? Send/receive flowers? Share a hug? Give/get a Massage? Be late for work? Shower together? Nibble an ear lobe? Schmoose over coffee? Realize fantasies? Get the picture here? GWM 44, tall, trim, prof, and ready to make dreams come true. EXT 1029.

Str, Masc, Gd/lkg WM, 20's into sports wanted by cute discreet GAM to massage after a game or a workout. EXT 1030.

Santa Rosa yng Aussie guy Straw/bl into 3 ways. Vanilla to raunch, deep throat and kinky. EXT 1031.

Hm movie freak w/ extraordinary footage of cock swallowing tech wants extra heavy hung, slender BM to take the challenge. Your Satisfaction guaranteed. EXT 1032.

Autofellatists and hung men wanted for heavy mutual JO, dirty talk, cock wor while drink/party. My place. EXT 1006.

Dark socks. Young WQ has fetish. Sks attr, cl cut men under 35. EXT 1007.

LEAVE A MESSAGE IN YOUR BARTALK MAILBOX! IT'S FREE. CALL: 296-0364.

Live JO, dirty talk freak sks deep voice guys for mutual cock worship while drink, smoke, party. My place. Oakland, 10-11pm meetings. EXT 1008.

Attached fit, gldk WM, 38, HIVneg sks BJ from Masc HIVneg Bl or super hairy guy. Your place. Safe. EXT 1009.

Seeking talented deep throated sex animal that likes to whirl and twirl 2 sweaty climaxes regularly. Me: 50's Bl, 9', cl cut, HIVneg. U B too. Smkr, beer belly. Peninsula. EXT 1010.

Hot head for musc W guys. Pref Peninsula by hot gdlkg 27yo. HIVneg only. Str, blue collar a plus. EXT 1011.

WM, 21, 5'8", 150, sks older man for passion and pleasure. You are bigger, hry, UC, facial hr all pluses. EXT 1012.

Hot Latino, masc, in shape skng Bi/GWM, 30's in shape to suck my big UC dick and eat my hot ass. EXT 1013.

Scat dichotomy: My Adonis (bub butt, yg, cute Medit). I eat: if not, you. Pigs. Am 28, lean, musc smth, Irish EXT 1014.

Hvy hung East Bay BM, 40 needs D/T experts who are free at 5am. No other times. Serious only. EXT 1015.

Sexy and sens GWM sks sim GAM interested in long sens sess on a reg basis. Enjoy massage, cuddling, being a top. Have hands w/ sens touch. Me: 39, 5'10", 160, gdlkg, natural well toned body, masc. You: Under 35, well toned, smooth body. Enjoy being man handled be a very affectionate man. EXT 1027.

Attr GLM, 40's, 5'8", 150. smooth body seeks GWM top, hung, who enjoys love being with his big dick for hrs. My mouth or my ass! EXT 1044.

Asian, 27, slender, very cute seeks couplesfor fun. If your bed can fit three, give me a call. EXT 1045.

GBM watch freak likes to watch men with big dicks having hot sex. I'll J/O. Can I watch. EXT 1046.

Wanted: Uncut Latin leather daddy for fit WM .30 to explore fantasy limits. EXT 1047.

Older, plain looking but hung East Bay BM needs expert DT service at 6am and 11pm. DT experts only. EXT 1048.

Hot Latino 35yo, in shape skng GWM 30-40, in shape, to suck my big dick, eat my hot ass. NO fats. EXT 1049.

Blk FF top has hungry hands for juicy buttholes . Horny friendly fun. Hot attractive, safe. EXT 1050.

Hot chaser's dream. 350 plus, big tits, ass, belly, thighs. FR /A , GR/P seeks chasers. Body weight prop to height. I want it. EXT 1051.

WS in So. Bay. Cute GWM 32, 5'11" to serve me recycled beer. Thirsty for lomenade. EXT 1052.

GWM, 5'8", 130, HIV neg, 60's top likes beach, Fris, massg, trvl, cookg, dng, opera, film mknng, ready and any race /age. EXT 1053.

GWM night person,smoker, HIVneg, cut, non BB, southerner seeks HIVneg suck buddy, cut, 39-49. Night person. EXT 1054.

Uncut, 48, dark and mustached, 5'10", 170, HIVneg, seeks J/O and suckbuddy to 50. Pluses: Blond, U/C, smck and funny. EXT 1055.

ltn ex-football jock seeks expert oral serv on a reg basis. Castro location. All replies Considered. EXT 1056.

You don't have to be hndsm w/ gym body, just cln fun and hot for oral action, tit wk, vid w/ GWM, 40's, Bl, 5'9", 158, HIVpos, smkr. EXT 1057.

Blond seeks redhead. I'm in shape swim and HIVneg. Small a plus. Irish a plus. EXT 1058.

I'm 5'8", 125, goodlooking in great shape wanting men hung long and thick to play with my deep throat and hot ass. Uncut a plus. EXT 1059.

AD OF THE WEEK

Masculine, earthy, uninhibited, wildly affectionate, sober, non-smoking musician, 38, 5'10", 145, bearded, kinda hairy, HIVneg, exceptional heart, mind, body, soul, ready for monogamous LTR. EXT 1110.

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ABBREVIATIONS:

BB - BODYBUILDER, BL/BL - BLOND HAIR AND BLUE EYES, BR/BR - BROWN HAIR AND EYES, GR - GREEN, LTR - LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP, UC UNCUT, WS - WATER SPORTS, TT - TIT TORTURE, G - GAY, S - SINGLE, A - ASIAN, B - BLACK, ITAL- ITALIAN, J - JEWISH, L - LATIN, W - WHITE.

This bearded bear into mutual JO, tit play, ball play. My dick needs your hands, my hands need your dick. My place. East Bay. EXT 1034.

Blonde sks dark and hairy Latins, Persians and Arabs for hot sexy sex and more. Very hairy only need apply. EXT 1035.

White slave, 47, needs to be sexually used and abused by Black master. EXT 1060.

Blond surf boy seeks giant BB with huge furry pecs for total head to toe worship Dark and hairy a plus. EXT 1061.

Intensely whip my tight and hot ass. Make me cum and a great blow job is your reward. I'm 21 and very horny. Are you? EXT 1062.

Big dick BiBM top sks GW/LM btm with a talent for sucking dick and getting fucked. Me: Gdlk BM, 5'10", 160, nice big balls. You be gdlk nice butt. Let's have a beer and fuck. OK! EXT 1063.

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THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 3

The Marriage of Bette and Boo
Marriage, breeding, drinking, divorce and decay as portrayed in Christopher Durang's comedic play. \$10. 8pm. Thru 9/19. The Y Theatre, 200 Golden Gate Ave. 267-3923.

Facade - An Entertainment
Cubes on skateboards & giant drag celery stalks are just a few of the wild creatures in this circus/dance piece based on the musical work by Sir William Walton and poet Dame Edith Sitwell. \$12.50. 8pm. Also Fri. Theater Artaud, 450 Florida. 621-7797.

Nefertiti. The Pyramid Queen
Also titled "How Someone Almost Shot Off My Wig as I Was Trying to Get Onstage Tonight," John S. Patterson's one-queen show parodies homophobia and nationalism in the black community. Someone invite Rev. Lumpkin. \$10-12. 8pm. Thru 9/5. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

Suzy Berger & Liz Olsen
Hip dyke comics. One night only. \$10. 10pm. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

Four Plays of the Sea
Outstanding staging of four Eugene O'Neill one-acts set on an actual schooner and in a local dive bar. \$20. 8pm. Thru 9/26. Hyde St. Pier. 434-1528.

Kiki and Herb - On Fire
Trashy, loungey fabulosity with Justin Bond and Kenny Mellman. \$7. 11pm. Fridays. Eichelberger's, 2742 17th at Florida. 863-4177.

Cole
Last few days to see the hit musical with songs by Cole Porter. \$19-34. 8pm. Sat. & Sun. mats. at 2pm. Thru 9/5. Theatre on the Square, 450 Post St. 433-9500.

Poetomachia
Harsh and hallucinatory dark comedy about obsessed, crazy, and drunken poets. \$10-17. 8:30pm. Also 2:30pm on Sun. Thru 10/3. Magic Theatre's Southside Theatre, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 474-8855.

Butch 'O My Dreams
Sandra de Helen's comedy that examines butch/femme identity in dyke culture. \$10-12. 8pm. Thru 9/25. Five Corners Theatre, Western & English, Petaluma. (707) 795-6537.

SATURDAY 4

Bewitched, The Play
Updated comedic play based on the sexy sitcom. Gay comic Hank Donat shines as Uncle Arthur. \$15. 8pm. Thru 9/28. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

Shattered Secrets
Libbe Haslevy's play about incest and recovery, which ran for three years in LA. \$6.50-8. 8pm. Shotwell Studios, 3252A 19th St. 550-6352.

Loverguys
Three one-act gay comedies by three authors about homo Mafiosi, weddings, porno & terrorists. \$12. 8:30pm. Sun. at 7pm. Thru 9/19. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Playboy of the Western World
J.M. Synge's play about the coming of age of a young Irish man, and the comic and tragic consequences it wreaks on a small village. Tour de Force's production is staged in and around the audience of a bar. \$15. Sat. at 2:30pm. & Mon. at 8pm. Thru 9/27. The Plough and the Stars, 116 Clement St. 751-1122.

Baby Cheeks
Play about three local drug abusing runaway prosties who try to start a band. \$10. 9pm. Marilyn Monroe Memorial Theatre, 96 Lafayette St. 552-3034.

Gay Comedy Night
Scott Silverman, Doug Richards, Doug Derrick, Richardson. \$10. 10pm. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

Why We Have a Body
Comedy about gender roles, including a dyke detective and a woman who thinks she's Joan of Arc when she's not robbing 7-Eleven stores. \$12-21. 8:30pm. Sun. 2pm & 7:30pm. Extended thru Oct. Magic's Southside Theatre, Fort Mason Center, Bldg. D. 441-8922.

Twyla's Boy
Charles E. Polly's humorous Appalachian gay-boy childhood play returns. \$10-13. 8pm. Thru 9/19. Artful Theatre, 47 Waller. (510) 841-6510.

Ask Me How I Feel
Amy Marschak's audience interactive play that explores emotional & spiritual elements in all of us. \$10. 8pm. Sun. 7pm. Also Sat. & Sun. at 3pm. Thru 9/5. Climate Theatre, 252 9th St. at Folsom. 626-9196.

Winter
Drawing from Butoh, Graham and German Expressionistic styles, Ellie Herman & Company's new dance work compares the seasons to the evolution of a soul. \$12.50. 8pm. Also Sun. Theater Artaud, 450 Florida St. 621-7797.

Malibu Barbie & Tribe 8
Two rockin' bands together. \$5. 4-8pm. El Rio, 3158 Mission. 282-3325.

Aguilas
Gay Latino organization holds general meeting and potluck. 6-9pm. St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St. 648-3702.

PG & E BBQ Party
Lesbian, gay & bi employees of the power monopoly host a party, with swimming, tennis, volleyball and dancing. \$15-20. Noon-9pm. The Surrey Inn, Russian River. 257-3432.

Skin Deep

Skinheads beat people up. Skinheads bomb gay bars and black churches and synagogues. Skinheads like the OCA in Australia, they beat up Vietnamese kids and just about anyone else who gets in their way. Confused, hate-filled and out of control, their numbers are growing all over the world, even down under. See Romper Stomper, Geoffrey Wright's disturbing controversial documentary about a gang of Aussie white supremacist thugs. Then get ready to fight back. Hard. Sept. 3-16. Nightly at 6, 8, 10pm, Saturday & Sunday also at 2 & 4 p.m. \$5.50. Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th St. 863-1087. Bash back, M

Foot work

Satisfy your jock itch at the Festival of the Babes, a two-day soccer tournament and celebration for lesbians and women willing to be mistaken for one. Register as teams or individuals. Meet with dykes from around the world. 24 teams are registered so far. For location, playing fields and info, call Alexa Wilkie (510) 655-6750 or Amy Hutto (510) 601-6729.

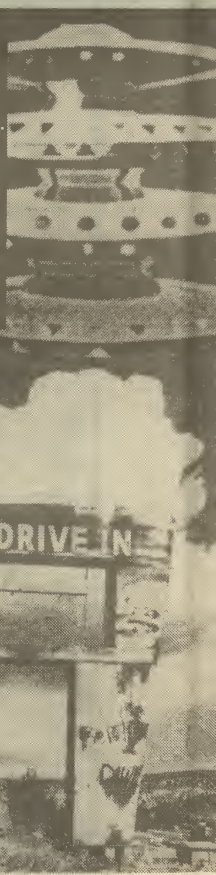


Christian Couture

Grab yer Gideon. Get ready for the return of Southern charmer Bonin-Rodriguez (above, left) in his new one-man show, *The Bible and Other Accessories*. Hear this cute San Antonio self-described sissy boy tell of his life as a 16-year-old Dairy Queen employee freshly outed, dealing with his fundy-infested school. Sept. 9 \$10-12. 8pm. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

Orbit-uaries

They've already landed. We know that. To find out more about UFOs, attend *Space Junkies* at ATA Gallery. \$5. 8pm. 992 Valencia at 21st. 824-3890. See Dan "Dark Shadows" Curtis' documentary on UFO culture, plus sci-fi film clips (*Earth vs. the Flying Saucers*, *Harryhausen is god!*), champagne, and open mike for alien abductee testimonials. "Well, me and my bud Otto were doin' a spliff at a campground outside Waco, when all of a sudden..."



Robert Dawson's photos (THU.)



Cole and Kiki: (both FRI.)



Beyond Therapy
Quirky farce about shrink, lovelorn bisexuals, and nut job therapists. \$20. 8pm. Hotel York's Plush Room, 940 Sutter. 885-2800.

Dancing At Lughnasa
Drama about five sisters in rural Ireland. \$20-32. 8pm. Sun. at 2 & 7pm. Thru 10/22. Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison at Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510)845-4700.

The Tempest
Marin Shakespeare Company's outdoor production of the classic stormy play, with former Philly Eagle football player Len Pettigrew as Caliban. \$5-15. Forest Meadows Amphitheatre, San Rafael. 499-1108.

Twilight of the Gods
Jonathan Tolin's not-too-far into-the-future dramatic play about parents who must decide if they want to keep their unborn baby, whom they know is gay. \$10-34. 9/19. Marines Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter. 771-6900.

Umbilical Thorn
Gender Front, a queer & transgender theatre group, performs two works about lady-boy sisterhood and Bangkok. \$8. 8:30pm. Thru 9/4. Bernice St. Playhouse, 21 Bernice St. 673-4291.

The White Devil
John Webster's 1610 satiric tragedy of bloody revenge, re-set in the '20s. \$7. 8pm. Thru 9/25. Bindlestiff Theatre, 185 6th St. at Howard. 974-1167.

In Between Zones
Comedic murder mystery play. Donate \$100 and play a corpse! \$15-20. 8pm. Sun. at 3pm. Thru 9/26. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-4914.

SUNDAY 5

Crash
Obsessive car crash collision film about a journalist, a seductress and a young girl. Sexually ambidextrous and criminally alluring. \$6. Thru 9/9. Castro Theatre, Castro at Market. 621-6120.

Moral Heights
Dynasty meets Mayberry RFD in a mythical small town soap opera comedy. \$7. 8pm. Sundays only. Artful Circle Theatre, 47 Waller. 626-KILL.

Quartermaster's Terms
Simon Gray's comic play about an English teacher. \$13-15. 8pm. Sun. at 3pm. Thru 9/19. Phoenix Theatre, 8th St. at Folsom. 931-6011.

To Excess
Group installation of works dealing with queer sexual excess in restrained times. Works by Danielle Abrams, Mike Blockstein, the HOMoture boys and others. Thru 9/11. Victoria Room, 1806 6th at Howard. 255-0364.

WEDNESDAY 8

Jewish Comedy Night
Suzy Berger, Scott Silverman and Lisa Geduldig share kosher comedy. \$10. 8pm. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

Contemporary Lesbian & Gay Film
Daniel Mangin's class. Screenings this week include *Damned in the USA*, *Devotions* and *Rosebud*. \$49. Classes thru 12/15. 6:30-9:30pm. Also Thu. Everett Middle School, Rm. 225. 17th & Church. 239-3383.

Talk Dirty to Me
Carol Queen and D. Right give horny hints and helps on how to talk like a nasty sexy creature. \$20. 8-10pm. Pre-registration required. Good Vibrations, 1210 Valencia at 23rd. 974-8980.

Charlie Ramos
Compelling figurative paintings. Thru 9/19. Architects & Heroes, 2239 Fillmore at Sacramento. 921-8383.

Earshot
Interdisciplinary art series with sound works by Ed Osborn, Laetitia Sonami, and performance by Cactus Needle Project. Opening reception 5:30-7:30pm. Thru 10/2. The LAB Gallery, 1807 Divisadero. 346-4063.

Portraits of Sisters
Exhibit of black and white photographs of sisters. Thru 9/17. UC Extension Center Galleria, 55 Laguna. 252-5221.

The Bizen Sonata
Four multimedia installations exploring a new Pacific Rim consciousness. Thru 9/26. Bayfront Gallery, Fort Mason Center, Landmark Bldg. A. 441-5706.

Mobility
Installation by Elliott Linwood. Thru 9/15. Morphos Gallery, 544 Hayes St. 626-1936.

THURSDAY 9

Porcelain
Bracing voice poem play based on an actual event, about a London student and the mystery of his murdered lover. \$10-20. 8pm. Also Sat. at 5pm & Sun. at 3pm. Thru 10/16. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St at Mission. 861-5079.

Discover the Dark Madonna
Not the Ciccone pop star, but the dark goddess of Italy, and how the ancient rituals survive Catholic dogma. Discussion with author Lucia Chiavola Birnbaum. \$3-10. 8pm. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia at 21st. 821-4676.

Pat Califia
Sexy dyke SM author and Advocate Classifieds adviser reads from her latest book, *Melting Point*. 7:30pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia. 282-9246.

Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Asian Pacific American Writings
Editor Curtis Chin hosts an evening of readings by contributors to this anthology. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Sex and Porn II
Odd collection of naked smut, both straight & gay, including Genet, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, and local and pirated nasty bits. \$5.50. Also Fri. Red Vic Movie House, 1727 Haight St. 668-3994.

\$.99 Queer Video Festival
Weekly showing of quirky, odd, and underground tapes. 7:30pm. The Clubhouse, 3160 16th. 621-5877.

Olivia Parker
Robert Dawson
Parker's compelling still life photos inspire symbolic themes, while Dawson's landscapes document concerns about the environment. Also works by Jock Sturges, Joyce Tenneson and others. Opening reception 6-8pm. Thru 10/23. Vision Gallery, 1155 Mission St. 621-2107.

Breakfast & Lunch Specials

City Breakfast or Country Breakfast \$3.50
Monday-Friday 8-11AM exc. holidays

French Toast or Pancakes (Blueberry or Buckwheat)
with scrambled eggs & bacon or sausage & home fries3.50
Biscuits & Sausage Gravy with two eggs any style, home fries and bacon or sausage3.50
Two Eggs any style with home fries & toast or english muffin2.50
Lunch Monday-Friday 11AM-4:30PM
Soup & Half Sandwich (Tuna Melt or Turkey B.L.T.) with french fries, pasta salad or cole slaw3.95
Grilled Vegi-Burger on sesame bun with fries or salad3.95

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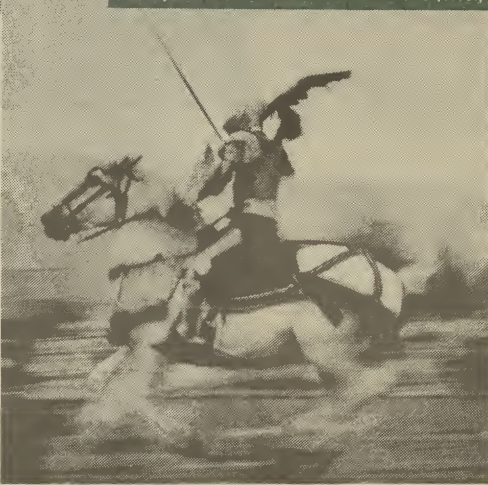


RAGING WATERS

Sunday, September 19

Admission \$20 in Advance/ \$25 day of event
advance tickets available at
All American Boy (SF or LA) or for information or
to charge tix call: 1-800-473-8658
sponsored by REVOLUTION MUSICRollerWorld/BDLcom

Heavy Metal: Renaissance Pleasure Faire (THU.)



Memories of Childhood
Russian art exhibit of work by mental institution patients. Thru 9/24. Student Union Art Gallery, SFSU, 1690 Holloway. 338-2580.

Max White
Exhibit of prints & drawings. Thru 9/12. The Stud, 9th & Harrison. 863-6623.

Life Center Exhibit
Students of the SF Art Institute display work in the Life Center, home of several AIDS agencies. 1675 California. 928-1445.

Frederick Campbell Hovey
Neo-psychedelic organic fantasy drawings. Thru 10/5. Sweet Inspiration, 2239 Market. 761-9246.

Mexican Book Arts
Artist's handmade books in a variety of styles. Thru 10/2. Galeria de la Raza, 2857 24th St. 826-8009.

Science Fair
Exhibit of work by artists and scientists. Thru 10/2. Southern Exposure, 401 Alabama. 863-2141.

Eadweard Muybridge
Panoramic photographs from 1850-1880 by the artist known more for his motion studies. Thru 10/24. Ansel Adams Center, 250 4th St. 495-7000.

Polish Gothic Realism
Drawings, paintings and prints by Ireneusz Ciesiolkiewicz. UC Berkeley Extension Gallery, 55 Laguna. 252-5221.

Architects & Passages
Mixed media sculpture and furniture as functional artforms. Architrave, 541 Hayes. 621-4923.

Renaissance Pleasure Faire
Elizabethan country fair with food, jousts, singing, tumbling, busty damsels and men in tights and armor. \$16.50-75. Weekends thru 10/10. Black Point Forest, Novato. (800) 52-FAIRE.

Spur
Ed Osborn's audio installation about the constraints of techno- & socio- systems. Thru 10/2. The LAB, 1807 Divisadero. 346-4063.

MONDAY 6

Gay Comedy Open Mike
MC Mimi Freed. Aspiring comics can call to sign up by 7pm. \$5. 8pm. Josie's, 16th & Market. 861-7933.

Wax Lips
Queer cable TV hosted by Rodney O'Neal Austin and Miss Jennifer Locke. 8pm. Cable Channel 51.

Erotica S.F.
Interview with Wally Sherwood. 11:30pm. Cable Channel 45.

TUESDAY 7

For the Heart
Eric Michael Gillett, Ringling Bros. singing ringmaster, performs his cabaret show. One night only. \$10. 8pm. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

Eileen Myles & Annette Weathers
Myles, the only lesbian presidential candidate/poet, reads with Weathers. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Lesbian & Gay Folk Dancing
Teaching 7:30-8. Dancing 8-9:30pm. Eureka Valley Community Center, 18th & Collingwood. 585-9784.

Barbary Coast
Gay and lesbian TV. 4:30pm. Cable Channel 51.

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BAY AREA REPORTER BAZAAR

Mr. Marcus

A New Leather Daddy's Boy

It's Labor Day weekend, and the biggest thing going on around town, for the leather community at least, is the 11th Annual Leather Daddy's Boy contest at the Eagle this coming Sunday, Sept. 5. For \$8, all the beer/soda you can consume, food, and entertainment from 1500 to 1800.

This year, another bevy of young men will be competing for a title which, from the beginning, was created to get younger leather men involved in the fundraising and community service that leather title holders are expected to perform. Unfortunately, the winner has not always lived up to the promises he made during the judging process. Emceeing: St. Clair Adams and Tom Ammiano.

Applications are still available from any bartender at the SF-Eagle, but don't bother to apply if you're not willing to make the commitment for the next 365 days. In San Francisco, with the honor of winning a title comes a lot of hard work, commitment and cooperation. Leave your ego in the box when you accept that sash and that trophy. We hope the hand-picked judges will pick a dedicated young man this time around. Hope to see all of you there — it's a benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund. Always a fun, well-attended event.

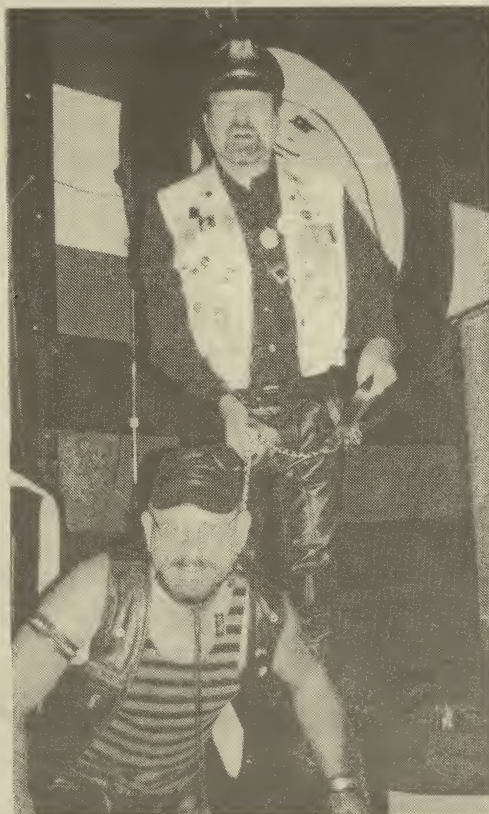
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The successful fundraising that goes on in this town is due largely to volunteers. In just 24 days, the biggest leather event in the world will take place at 1000 on the morning of Sunday, Sept. 26, when the 10th Annual Folsom Street Fair rolls in for the celebration that will be a decade old that day.

Leathermen and women from Europe, Asia, Australia and even South Africa will be here (including International Mr. Leather '93 Henri Ten Have), and naturally, a lot of work takes place before the curtain rises. These things just don't happen overnight. If visitors/tourists don't have a good time and enjoy all the various offerings, this event will make a mockery of the famous "Only in San Francisco" accolades this city and, especially, this community, must live up to. The lineup of entertainment is on the way!

Right now there are only four people on the board of directors of SMMILE — a board that should be manned with 12 bodies. They are President Wayne Johnson, David Dysart, Bill Hunt and Tom Bergano. No one has come forth to fill the empty eight spaces. Why people are hesitant/recalcitrant to be involved with SMMILE would take more space than I have

(Continued on next page)



Best in Show at the Human Dog Show last Saturday, Aug. 28 at the Eagle, Alan Selby and his "mutt" John. (Photo: Mr. Marcus)



Mr. April 1994 on the Great Buns Calendar, Richard Faust, will grace the cover of the new calendar for this year.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

Mr. Marcus



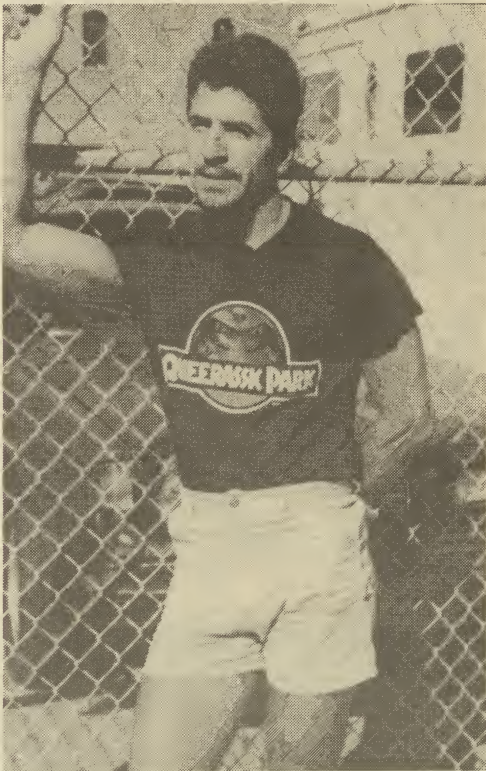
Inspired by the legendary Tom of Finland, sculptor Harry Tanner opens his sculpture show with almost 40 pieces at the Jaguar Book Store in the Castro on Wednesday, Sept. 8. The show hangs until Nov. 22.

(Continued from previous page)

here. That's not what this item is about.

But know this: SMMILE needs at least 30 volunteers. Without delving into the "politics" of the issue of a sparse board, know that if you're proud of this community, proud of this event, and a believer in leather pride, now's

the time to put up or shut up. Badmouthing takes energy. Better to use that energy to show our thousands of out-of-town and foreign guests that this is indeed the city that knows how! Call (415) 648-FAIR (648-3247). And if you don't get a response within 24 hours, keep calling. Leave irate messages. Scream! Rant! Rave! Somebody will (they



The T-shirt wars continue, this hunk sporting a "Queer Park" newcomer and available at the French Quarter in West Hollywood.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

great job of archiving all of Tom's work as well as other artists of merit on the scene.

Now there's a sculptor, Harry Tanner, who says his work was inspired by the art of Tom. When one is inspired, there is nothing else to do but to execute — and execute Mr. Tanner has done!

Next Wednesday, Sept. 8, Harry will open a show that includes almost 40 individual sculptures of men, inspired

(Continued on next page)



Political advisor David Mixner, congratulates Nicole the Great on being elected empress of San Diego for the 6th time on Aug. 7.

promised me!) get back to you. Out of towners can call too or write: Folsom Street Fair, 1072 Folsom St., Box 242, San Francisco, CA 94103.

And while I'm on the subject of volunteers, they need at least four people to man the coat-check booth at the SF-Eagle a few nights during the week and especially on the weekends. Proceeds of the coat check go to the AIDS Emergency Fund.

If you want a painless way to help out (and meet some extremely interesting men in the process), this is it! Call Steve Gaynes at (415) 647-5679 if you're interested. Women are welcome to help, too!

★ ★ ★

I wouldn't even try to guess how many people have fantasized over the men drawn by Tom of Finland. The Tom of Finland Foundation in Los Angeles is doing a

Affairs to Remember

Thursday, Sept. 2: Big Basket contest at The Edge Bar tonight beginning at 2200. The beer/soda bust is from 2000 to 2400. Danny Williams will emcee; this one is always a blast.

Weekend, Sept. 3-6: Two big bike club weekends in progress: the Satyr MC of Los Angeles at Badger Flat (accepting cash at the gate) and the Cycle Runners MC and their "Jam-balaya and All That Jazz" at Big Basin Redwoods State Park in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Call

(415) 821-2023 if you want to attend this one!

Saturday, Sept. 4: Eat before you get to the Eagle tonight because the Constantines MC will not be selling hot dogs on the patio. They return next week with better and bigger weenies! Gary Kenyon guarantees it!

Sunday, Sept. 5: 11th Annual Leather Daddy's Boy Contest at the SF-Eagle today with a \$8 beer/soda bust, food, entertainment and a bevy of boys!

Monday, Sept. 6: While I

received no notice(s), there will be action in all the regular venues you frequent. Check with them. It is, after all, a holiday for some of you!

Now accepting applications for the Golden Gate Guards MC weekend (Oct. 1-3) until Sept. 27 for \$95. The theme this year: "Go AWOL With the Golden Gate Guards" at beautiful Camp Mendocino. Call (415) 431-9475 for details, or write P.O. Box 192101, SF, CA 94119. ▼

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Mr. Marcus



James Buhler, Leather Daddy's Boy 1987, will be on hand for the 11th annual contest this Sunday, Sept. 5 at the SF-Eagle.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

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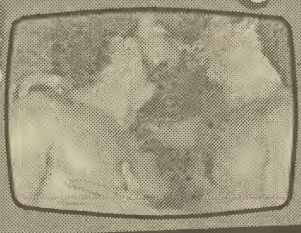
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(Continued from previous page)

by Tom of Finland, at the Jaguar Bookstore, 4057 18th St. They are superb; you won't be disappointed and may even buy one or two for that fantasy space in your digs. Mr. Tanner will be there for the reception from 1930-2300. Come on down and meet him and see his art. The show will hang until Nov. 22, so don't miss it! And yes, Mr. Tanner has exaggerated the parts that are exaggerated in Tom's drawings!

★ ★ ★

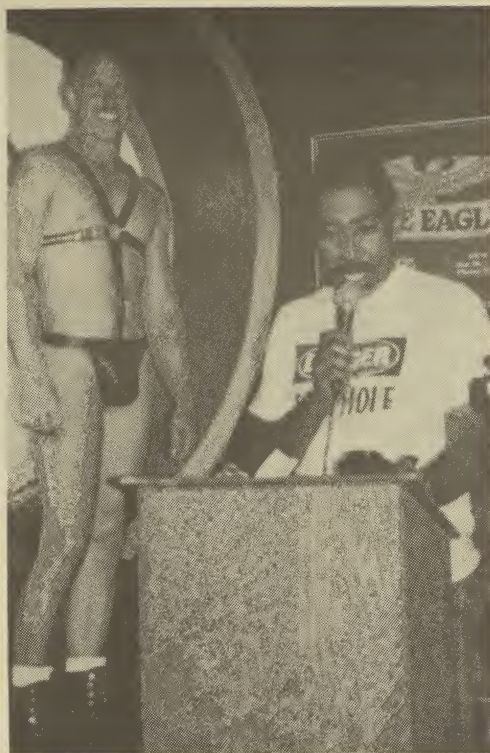
Nice turnout at almost every event around town last week. The 1994 Great Buns Calendar is already at the printer, and eight of the monthly winners competed for the cover spot last Wednesday, Aug. 25.

Judges Greg Byfield, Don Nelson and last year's cover winner, Kirke Watson, faced eight of the winners, who frolicked through the evening trying to pick up a plunger with their buns! A riot. When it was all over, Mr. April 1994, Richard Faust, won the spot. The calendar will be ready for the Folsom Street Fair. How many did you say you wanted to buy? Benefiting the A.E.F.

And speaking of calendars, the 1994 Bare Chest Calendar is at the printer even as you read this, and the long-awaited debut of this year's dynamite edition (photographed by Bob Drapeau) will take place in a matter of days.

The big auction of the 12 chesty hunks who won will take place at the Sunday, Sept. 12, beer/soda bust. Bid on a dinner date with each of them, buy a calendar (buy as many as you can afford), and get it autographed right on the spot. Since Danny Williams will be on a cruise entertaining the troops, it's taking four auctioneers to do the job, and I'm happy to say I'll be sharing the chores with Bay Times columnist St. Clair Adams, Mr. Headquarters '92 Art Tomaszewski and IML '92 Lenny Broberg. Don't miss this one!

On Thursday, Aug. 28, Ms. SF Leather Queen Cougar reigned, with whip, over her Spankfest at the Eagle and really took it out on the more



Vern Stewart (with mike) announces that the 1994 Great Buns Calendar will benefit the AIDS Emergency fund, here with coverman Richard Faust.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

willing than not volunteers. Everybody got spanked! It was fun and definitely a winner.

Saturday afternoon, Aug. 28, the Human Dog Show took place in the Eagle patio, and it was outrageous! Some of the "dogs" were really lacking in obedience, and one even splattered the fire hydrant!

Most of the "dogs" were very cooperative and even talented, but when it was all over, the Best in Show prize went to Alan Selby and his "mutt," John. He was obedient, talented and didn't commit any no-nos. People were raving! Don't you just love it?

Sunday afternoon, the Trojan Football Team took over for the beer bust and served up some mighty fine hamburgers and veggies. They were so busy pouring beer

and the place was so crowded that the introduction of the players/team was a names-only event. Good time had by all! Believe me when I tell you. Hi, Joe!

The Dish Runs Away With the Spoon

Mr. DC-Eagle, Tony Wilging, was so smitten by two dudes he met in Chicago while competing for IML, he quit his job, packed up his belongings, and moved to the Windy City. Tony is now part of a three-man household and literally drowning — oops! — wallowing in his favorite sexual proclivity.

Another new bar South of Market? Three dudes put their life savings together and are looking for a New Year's Eve opening of — are you ready? — The Fat Dog. Well... it is different, isn't it? ▼



Bible Thumper

Charles E. Polly (on left) gets an earful from Bible-toting Suzan Kendall in Twyla's Boy, featuring Polly's own first-hand accounts of growing up gay in Appalachian Kentucky.

Crossing

(Continued from page 33)

longed to someone else. Less serious than the regulars, was I impersonating a transvestite or was I the real thing?

It wasn't two minutes before I got a response. "Hey chiquita! WHEW!" three sailors called out from a speeding rental car. I realized how ironic it was that I was walking through one of the city's meanest and most neglected neighborhoods while at my most vulnerable. I had become one of the street's many "characters," which included crazed loners milling about, the kind of people your mother told you to stay away from. Could I be tough if I needed to be — in high heels?

"You look great, honey," a girl said as I passed by. I was so nervous about my reception into their fold, but all my fears were laid to rest soon after I entered the Lode: everyone was so sweet. As Sherry, the nerdy, naive country girl with the soul of a sex-starved tramp, I was making friends fast.

"It's his first time, Toni!" announced Veronica, a secretary by day and bass player by night. "Doesn't she look great?" she asked everyone within earshot, and they all responded enthusiastically with compliments. Veronica also gave me a few tips.

"Oh, I've been at this longer than you've been on the planet. Listen to me — what you need to do is start coming a lot and watching the other girls. You can learn something from everyone here."

I confessed I was worried about my hair, and she sympathetically agreed. "You need to control it a little more," she counseled.

Living the Life They Love

I admired Veronica's dedication. For most of these people, this is obviously no weekend hobby. These girls live the life they love. While I had barely been able to hobble the two blocks from my

friend's apartment where I dressed and liquored-up for the evening, everyone else was bopping around like the Solid Gold Dancers.

I asked a girl if she felt vulnerable on the streets and she replied that she carried a stiletto. She also mentioned that many girls carry mace and stun guns — or use Aqua-Net hairspray to burn eyes.

Picking up straight-looking boys is the name of the game. Many of the girls boast of picking up a different closeted guy every weekend. Once they get home, it's usually the shemale who tops the prepster. Evidently, these straight types would rather be mounted by a boy in a dress than a state trooper hunk with a mustache.

However, I lacked the glamour and elegance the best of them possessed, and all the cute guys sensed this. One polo-n-chinos boy kept giving me the big eye over the top of his beer, but when I returned his gaze, he just looked away.

I was curious about whether or not most of the girls were preparing for sex reassignment. Veronica, who already had her surgery, told me it was quite the contrary with most of the cross-dressers; they wanted to remain chicks with dicks.

Another girl piped in, "We want to have penises but make a living in dresses with the glamour, excitement, and drugs. The hormones transsexuals take become a drug to them."

One girl who once wanted the operation gave me the lowdown. Now a person with AIDS, her dirty blond hair was thinning severely. She was diagnosed just before her surgery, and AIDS prevented her from completing the procedure.

"Never go to Mexico," she insisted, "they'll butcher you there. They'll just cut it off and send you on your way. Being transsexual implies a discomfort with the male body. Suicide among males

yearning to be female is huge. There are so many mental and physical drawbacks. The hormones cause depression. It's all a question of what's really inside you.

"You must prove to the doctor that you can live the lifestyle 24 hours a day, seven days a week. As a man with a woman inside me, it's a living hell. There are so few jobs we can actually do. I want to do more with my life besides being a bartender. I have to be a male in the morning and a girl at night. A transsexual wants a more full and complete life.

"Operations are granted after a three-year evaluation. These years are spent learning the tools to change — to

solve a problem you've had all your life. The last 72 hours are spent in a deathwatch for your penis. Any indication during this final period that you are more male than female, and the operation is canceled. Society makes the rules and regulations, and it puts us in a very unhappy world. Transgenders are the strongest people in the world."

* * *

My last visit to the bar was so different from my first. In jeans and a sweater, I felt like an outsider; in a dress, I was family. After several visits, I noticed different cliques within the subculture — transsexuals, transvestites, Asian lady-

boys, camp dragsters, prostitutes, weekend "ladies" — an entire universe of alternative choices who all responded with spontaneous enthusiasm to Barry Manilow's "Copacabana" on the bar's sound system.

It was theatre of the most confusing sort, the kind of experience that caused me to question where the true self stands in relation to gender and sexual personae. One of the girls told me, "Transsexuals are one of the greatest mysteries of man."

Somewhat claustrophobic, I ripped off my wig on my way out of the bar, and a very shocked girl put her hands to her mouth and screamed, "Oh darling, put it back on!" ▼

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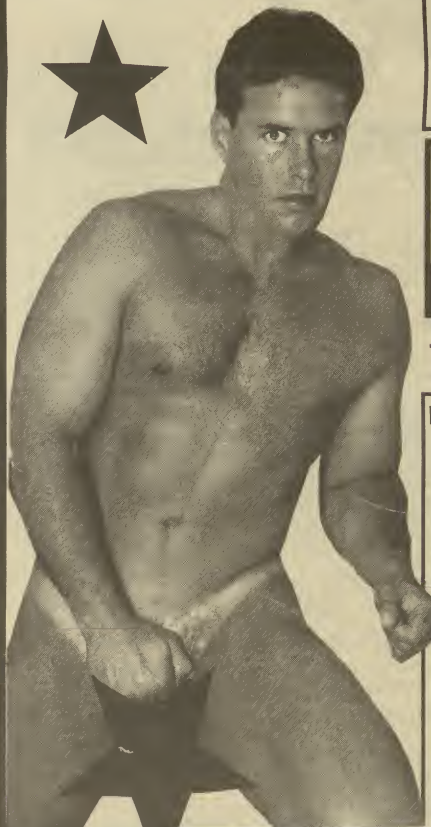
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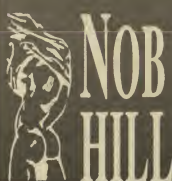
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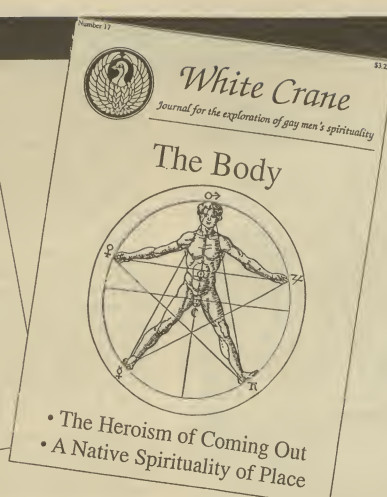
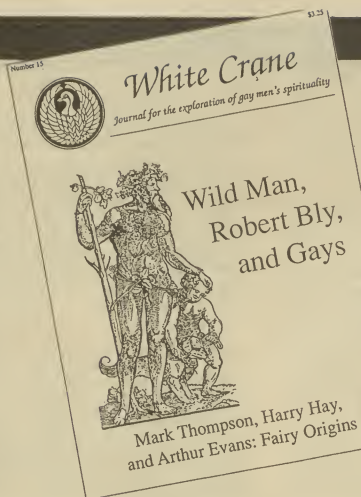
Hairspray honeys: several of the club's many attractions pose for a group shot. (Photo: Rick Gerhart)

Happiness

(Continued from page 39)

Both Hay and Mark Thompson (a former *Advocate* editor who stands accused of selling us an ungentle fairy history) reply eloquently in the next issue, but Evans gets to demolish their defenses immediately following, thus having the last word in both cases. Given the scholar's rapier-sharp pen, this editorial policy of granting last licks hardly seems fair.

But Barzan's newsletter is less concerned with reputation adjustment than with opening up the metaphysical horizons of us gay types. Spir-



itual quests are ultimately about transcending the limitations of our physical bodies and mental constructs. Already in the practice of inventing our culture, our sex-lives and our identities, we gay men should be prepared for mapping our own route to the heart of things. ▼

Editor's Note: You can find the White Crane Newsletter at *A Different Light* and *Bound Together* bookstores in San Francisco, or you can subscribe. A one-year, four-issue subscription costs \$12, or a sample copy is \$3.25. Write to White Crane Newsletter, PO Box 170152, San Francisco, CA 94117.

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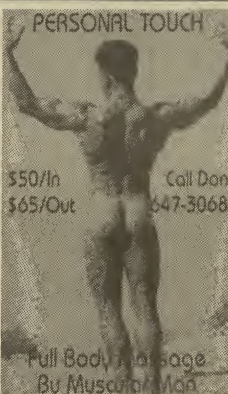
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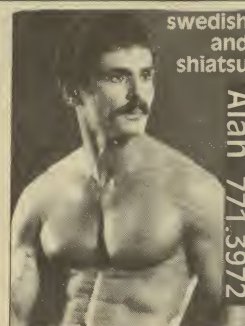
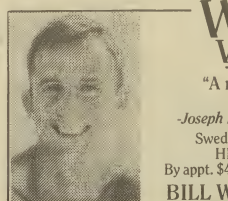
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I'm getting a really great
response, many telling me
it's the best they've had.
Call Matt, CMT, 8am-10pm.
752-5668 EZ Parking. ^{E35}

S. ROSA R. RIVER
Hot Oil Massage
By Bottom
1-707-528-7454 ^{E36}

Full Body Massage
Strong and Clean Cut
Out Only. Nick 512-5777 ^{E35}

Masterly Complete Massage
by versatile, experienced
Oak CMT. From strong to
sensual! Greg (510) 547-1364 ^{E38}

Wonderful, Relaxing Massage
Professional masseur (certified '85) gives
Swedish-Esalen massage with a firm and
gentle touch. "I love to massage and I
have the touch." \$30 1 1/4hr., \$36 1 1/2
hr., \$48 2 hrs. In Castro, easy parking.
Bruce 626-2026 VISA & MC accepted

WARM HANDS, WARM HEART

"A masseur in the finest tradition
of ecstatic bodywork."

Joseph Kramer, Director, Body Electric School

Swedish/Esalen, Acupressure, Rebirthing.

HIV+ encouraged. Castro location.

By appt. \$45 for 90 minutes \$60 for 2 healing hours

BILL WEINTRAUB, CMT 861-7689

PLEASURE IS YOURS

**MASSEUR offers strong hands,
sensitive touch, warm studio.
Convenient Castro Location
Days & Evenings**

TODD 415/861-9909





People and Personals

MASSAGE

SHIATSU



Regain balance
in your life
through touch

- maintain optimum health
 - reduce stress
 - relaxation guaranteed
 - nonsexual
- 1 1/2 hours \$45.
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Experience Vitality

Powerful/Soothing
Personalized Touch
Flexible Rates
— Certified —
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Keith 252-0389 24 Hrs.

BUFFED BLOND

I give a very relaxing, full-body & complete massage.
I am 5'10", 160, 25 y/o.
Tan, Handsome, & Clean-cut. E35



SWEDISH MASSAGE

Thomas Douglass, Jr.
C.M.T.

861-3035



Great Full
Body Massage
By Caring &
Sensitive C.M.T.
Deep-Gentle

\$40/In — \$50/Out

Jeff

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LOVING STROKES

Nurturing, Sensual
Healing, Satisfying



STRONG HANDS

SENSITIVE & EXPERIENCED
From Stress Reduction to
Simple Relaxation

STEVE C.M.T.

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THERAPEUTIC BODYWORK WITH RESULTS



Relief From—
■ Stress ■ Pain
■ Sports Injury
Utilizing —
■ Swedish
■ Deep Tissue
■ Sports Massage
■ Acupressure
Licensed & Certified
Nonsexual
Massage Therapist

Steven
Arthur

\$50
647-0644

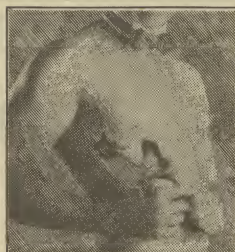
INDULGE YOURSELF
Deep Swedish Massage.
Warm, Comfortable Space.
Available throughout the
holiday weekend.
Certified. Mark. 861-5441 E35

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* GENTLE TOUCH MASSAGE BY *
YOUNG GOODLOOKING LATIN
SMOOTH, MUSCULAR, FRIENDLY

\$45/IN \$55/OUT

CALL ALFREDO 282-3313 E35



CLASSIC TOUCH FOR THE CONNOISSEUR

Therapeutic Massage
9am — 9pm

Richard, CMT 431-9608

Daniel Lessa-Zielinski, CMT

Deep,
Relaxing,
Sensual,
Swedish/Esalen
Massage by
Strong,
Experienced,
Caring
Hands



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90 min/\$55 • Castro Location • Parking



ESALEN MASSAGE
BY
LATIN BOY
FELIX

552-2209

News You Can Use! B.A.R.

BRYAN

Deep Sensuous Nude
massage by good looking
hairy chest, 34 y/o CMT
In/out (415) 863-5679 E36

★ FEEL GOOD ★!

SUPER SATISFYING SENSUAL MASSAGE

BY A HANDSOME
ATHLETIC AND
FRIENDLY MAN

\$45/In \$60/Out

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INDULGE YOURSELF

Enjoy the nurturing magic of a soothing deep
tissue Swedish-Esalen massage in a warm and
comfortable environment. Castro location. Gift
Certificates available. Sliding scale for people
living with HIV.

MARK CARMODY

(415) 861-5441

Certified

25 YR LATIN HOT

Honest great looks
648-1919

TOM ADVENTURESOME

Built tight, muscular
Blond man, 32, 6', 190lbs., Very
friendly. Guys over 30 preferred.
Sensual massage in the buff.
\$45in/\$60out 24 hrs.

563-1302

Excellent massage
Sensual/erotic
By strong athletic boy
Blake, 25 yrs., 9"
255-0614



NEBRASKA FARM BOY

25 yo

Major Hotels

\$50/In/

\$60 Out

8:00 am-6 pm Only

J.J.

(415)

771-4873

Appts. Welcome



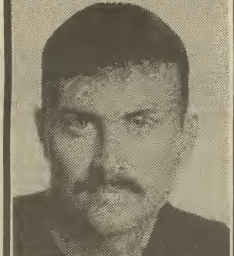
HEALING MESSAGES

R.L. BATES

(415) 567-6847

EROTIC MASSAGE
1 1/2 Hrs. — \$40/In \$65/Out
Older Men Welcome • Hotels
24 Hrs. (415) 346-4677 E35

FEEL My
PERSONAL Massage
I've got the touch
at a price you
can't afford to miss!
MARIN LOCATION/457-5795



ITALIAN HUNK
EAST BAY ★ S.F.
QUALITY EROTIC MASSAGE
\$35 (510) 654-5889

GARY FENTON

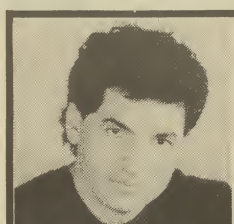
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Only One Question

WANNA MELT?

Castro Certified \$35

Jim de Masseur 864-2430 E36



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SENSUAL EROTIC MASSAGE

\$35 (510) 654-4504

*Outcalls to S.F. Also



Skilled Friendly CMT

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Best Full Body Massage

In San Francisco

• Erotic • Sensual

• Deep Tissue • Nurturing

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Voracious 24 Yr. Old

Needs Older Men For Sensual

Massage. (415) 703-7148 E39

San Bruno Hot Oil Massage

Sensuous. \$40. 873-8029 E36

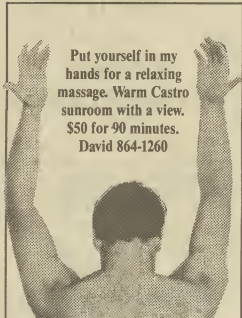
HANS

NORWEGIAN MAN

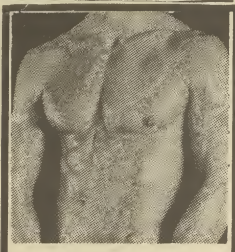
Wholesomely Handsome, 33
6', 195 lbs., great tan body
1 1/4 hr. super massage
in nude; Japan Center
\$45/In \$60/Out 24 hours.

292-2373

SWEDISH MASSAGE
EROTIC DEEP TISSUE
SENSUAL NURTURING
Cathedral Hill
Tom 922-8992
Discount for PWA



Put yourself in my
hands for a relaxing
massage. Warm Castro
sunroom with a view.
\$50 for 90 minutes.
David 864-1260



SPECIAL TOUCH

Sensual Nude Massage
By Extremely Attractive
Rock Solid Sexy Hunk
Experience The Difference
KIRK 281-5901

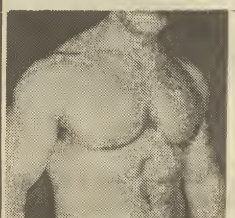
SUPERB MASSAGE

JEFF GIBSON,
CMT

626-7095

\$45

Whether your goal is stress manage-
ment, eliminating nagging aches and
pains, or simply to feel great, I can
help. Swedish • Deep Tissue • Sports-
massage • Trigger Point • Cross Fiber
• PNF Stretching • and more!



FOR THE FIT MAN
Who Demands the Best
RON 563-2392

THIS COULD BE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD!!

Deep & Satisfying 24 Hr.
Erotic Masseur 621-2354 E35

Grad student offers Swedish
Massage. Very handsome,
athletic & muscular swimmer,
clean-cut, 28Y/o. Call 387-5150
E43

Peaceful Massage By 6'4"
Male. Call Jeff @ 334-2397 E35

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Relaxing, healing hot-oil massage
Sensuous, ecstatic bodywork
Nurturing - Supportive - Intuitive

Jack Walder, CMT

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1 1/2 hrs. - \$40 - Discount PWAs

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Therapeutic and Erotic
Deep, Satisfying, Massage
Certified and Discreet
Daniel 626-4192 Eves/Wknd:E39

MAN TO MAN

1 Hour Full-Body Rub \$25

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24 Y/O gives great erotic
rub. 5'10", 160, tan, 615-8186
CANADIAN BOY E35

EROTIC NUDE RUB
Hot Oil Sensual Rub on Your
naked body. My hot hands
on your hard, hot spots.
Nob Hill. Steve 922-5832 E36

Sensual Massage by a Loving
Man. Peter 252-8662 E36



Sensual Massage
6', 175, In/Out
(510) 658-2437

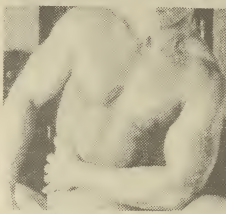
People and Personals

MASSAGE

Nude Swedish Massage SENSUOUS TOUCH

Eric 564-6277
\$35 IN/\$45 OUT

DON'T ABSTAIN!

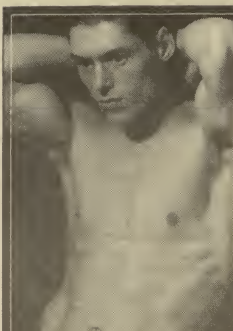


Lay Back, Relax, Put
Your Body In My Hands
For 1 1/2 Hrs.
Blonde Athlete, 5'9 1/2" #185
Offers Excellent Swedish/
Deep Tissue Massage
\$70. Outcalls and Hotels Only
Craig 776-8586



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EROTIC MASSAGE

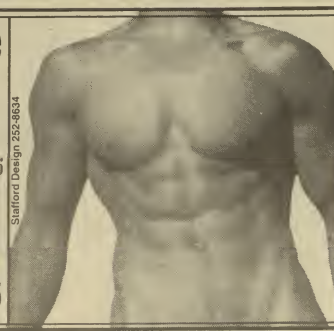
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Exotic Massage by Goodlooking
Friendly Cowboy in the
Pleasanton-Livermore Area
John
510-455-4605
24 Hours



Shiatsu • Oil Massage • \$50
Michael Quintal, CMT 861-4472

Complete Massage

by very attractive,
built nude blonde, 26
in call-\$50/out call \$70
Daytime Discount
before 5 p.m.
in call-\$15/out call-\$60
Brett 979-5355



Dr. Hermann is Back!
Satisfying Bear Massage
\$40 In/out. 648-0604

AFFIRM SELF-LOVE SWEDISH MASSAGE

By Strong, Creative and
Experienced Masseur

Walter, C.M.T. 285-5704



Enjoy a lush, full-body MASSAGE

under the experienced hands of
JAS DEWSNAP
Certified Massage Therapist
and registered Jin Shin Do Acupressurist
Sensuous • 864-5447 • Satisfying
Castro location \$40 - 1st hours - Discount PWA's



Where nothing comes between you & relaxation OIL MASSAGE \$50



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Marty McCorkle

The BODYMECHANIC

THERAPEUTIC
MASSAGE
AND
FITNESS TRAINING

Keep your body in tune!

Dan 567-9698
CPFT, CMT



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ORTHOPEDIC MASSAGE

JACK EIMAN
695-7808

Deeply relaxing and very
effective for stiff neck and
shoulders, back pain, sport-
ing injuries, computer
stress, etc. I've had excellent
training. Please call for
detailed info. Thank you.

E. BAY - LAKE MERRITT

Excellent Massage
(Esalen/Deep Tissue/Reiki)
By a Highly Skilled,
Nurturing CMT.
Jason Serinus (510) 444-4169

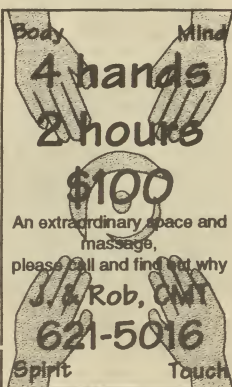
Attractive 28 ★ 773-9130
★ VERY SENSUAL ★

EXOTIC

Sensual Nude Massage 24 Hr.
Sexy 24 y/o. Tony. Pager
719-7674

BLOND BODY WORKER...
6' trim athletic guy gives
Erotic Swedish Massage In/Out.
Call Max: 668-5002

24 Hr. Hotel Calls • 773-9130
FULL BODY RELIEF



BEAR FACTS

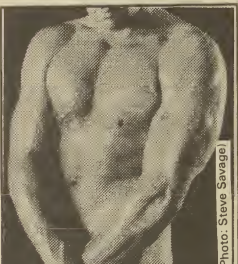
Hairy Italian Ex-Football
Jock Rubs You The Right
Way. Butch 621-4316 24 Hrs.
\$40/\$55

Nude Masseur 621-2354
Hot & Erotic 28 Y/O 24 Hrs.

Sensual Synthesis
Experienced Masseur Will
Take Very Good Care of You
Andrew (510) 769-9470

Caring & Complete 773-9130
SMOOTH ★ MUSCULAR

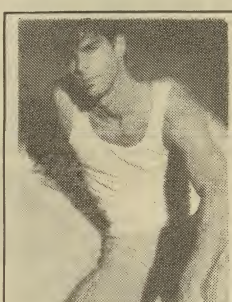
Less Price—More Massage
\$25 SF'S BEST
Quality, Total Pleasure, Com-
plete, relaxation, sensual,
professional, genuine value
plus. Vic, CMP 552-5364



IT'S HARD

To find a great masseur
Look no further, you've found one
in me. I'm an ext. handsome,
5'10", 200 lb. bodybuilder who will
give you a superior full-body
massage. Call Robert when you
want a professional bodyworker.
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Austrian/Italian Athlete
29, 6', 175 lbs., Sensual, Nude
Massage In/Out 510-658-6741
MOZART



Nurturing/Caring
Massage
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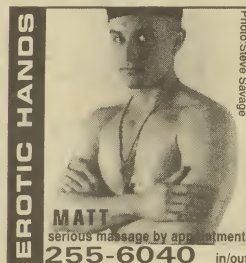
I strive to achieve
EXCELLENCE
in life and my full-body
erotic massage is no exception!
I'm a very defined
handsome, blond gymnast.
\$40 Kevin 864-1190

★ Best Massage 773-9130 ★
MAJOR HOTELS ★ SF

22 y/o Athletic Blonde Tan
NUDE MASSAGE
David 560-8732 Out Only.

EROTIC SENSUAL TOUCH

Nude Massage by Muscular
College Dude, 26, 6'2", 185
Let me relieve
you of your stress. \$45/in
Ph. Anthony (415) 861-6027



Sensual Msg. Escort & More!
Hot Jock 821-1674. Kevin
ASIAN DREAM

★★ SAN JOSE ★★
Swedish Massage. CMT. Late
Calls O.K. Jim (408) 358-1456

ARE YOU SHY?
Cute blond, 28, Can help.
Greg, CMT 346-1061

Wonderful Touch! 773-9130
★ NUDE MASSAGE ★



DAVE
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SURRENDER & UNRAVEL

BODYWORK
WITH OR WITHOUT OILS
Near Castro \$55/90 min.

Dirk Alphin, certified '86
CALL: 863-0777




Ahhh...
Steve Sensual Complete
John, 567-2952 - 24 hrs



People and Personals

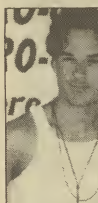
MASSAGE



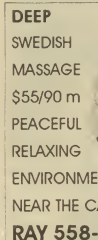
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Certified Massage
15th St. & Dolores
In \$40/Out\$60
HIV+ Sliding Scale
Non-Sexual
864-1320



San Mateo
Excellent full body
massage by exp'd CMT.
Deep and sensual. \$40.
JOE (415) 342-5035




GENUINE SENSITIVITY.
YOUR MUSCLES ARE
THE FOCUS AS THE
STRENGTH FROM 21
YEARS OF PIANO
TECHNIQUE IS
COMBINED WITH
SWEDISH AND SHIATSU
MASSAGE. THERE IS A
DIFFERENCE.
ALLEN
252 9442



DEEP
SWEDISH
MASSAGE
\$55/90 m
PEACEFUL
RELAXING
ENVIRONMENT
NEAR THE CASTRO
RAY 558-8638

EAST BAY BEAR
gives nude, erotic massage
Handsm, healthy, strong.
Hands & looks of Lumberjack.
Andy (510) 481-2513 Late OK

Goodlooking Guy Gives
Excellent Massage. Smart,
Built + Hung. Jim 558-9683



Nice & Relaxed
A full-body Swedish massage
will bring you bliss.
Warm table, warm oil.
Bob 824-6713
certified, experienced


TREAT YOURSELF
Sensual Bodywork
Highly Trained
In Many Styles
Intuitively Gifted
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Mark (415) 863-5007
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Healing Magical Touch

★ ★ \$30 Erotic Massage ★ ★
★ ★ Bill 441-1054. Hot! ★ ★
LATIN MUSCLE
Deep sensuous professional
massage by strong, caring
student. Call 553-8786

Very Cute, Boyish, 22 y/o
Blond-Blue-Tan-Smooth
HOT NUDE MASSAGE
24 hrs. 905-4548 Lv# \$80/up

EROTIC 24HRS.
Massage C.M.T. 775-4771 24 hrs.

LOOKING FOR ECSTASY?
Call me at bpr. #
(510) 308-6985
Vidal Out Wknd Only
Deep Full Body Massage
by young, healthy student.
Very Clean-cut & Friendly
8am-10pm. EZ-Parking
Call Matt 752-5668



ENVELOPMENT
Outstanding Professional Massage
MICHAEL 281-0208



Blond Canadian
Even if you're a little shy
One-of-a-kind-Man
When you need a
friendly hand, a warm
sensual experience
& a fun man,
6', 195, nude, erotic
Swedish hot lotion rub.
Experienced
Ron • 922-3250 • 24hr

FIRESIDE MASSAGE
1 1/2 Hours of Nurturing Touch
Sliding Scale Fee
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San Jose-Swedish Massage
Prof. \$30/Hour. In-Calls
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IRISH CHARM
Plus Pro Excellence
Guarantee Your Pleasure!
Nude Swedish Massage By
Gdlnkg CMT. Tim 863-5679
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TANTRIC ECSTASY
Indulge in a Full-Body to
Body Erotic Massage with
sexy 27 y/o, exotic Sebastien.
West Berkeley. 510-704-9736

Sensual Touch Massage
Daniel. Hot, 28 y/o 621-2354



High-Strength sensitive touch
\$40 • Jim
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THE BOY
Full Body Massage.
Pre-Med Student —
Honest & Discreet
\$50 Students & Minorities
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698-CUTE to Talk

Blond Canadian
Even if you're a little shy
One-of-a-kind-Man
When you need a
friendly hand, a warm
sensual experience
& a fun man,
6', 195, nude, erotic
Swedish hot lotion rub.
Experienced
Ron • 922-3250 • 24hr



Blond Canadian
Even if you're a little shy
One-of-a-kind-Man
When you need a
friendly hand, a warm
sensual experience
& a fun man,
6', 195, nude, erotic
Swedish hot lotion rub.
Experienced
Ron • 922-3250 • 24hr

This could be your classified ad!!!
call (415) 861-5019

DISCOUNT MSG.
\$20-30 C.M.T. 775-4771 24hrs
Strong Erotic Touch
Muscular & Masculine 28 y/o
Knows What U Want
Call Daniel 621-2354 24 Hr.

ATTENTION
is all you knead. Enjoy
a relieving massage by
sincere, sensitive, sensual
guy—Call Chris 558-8189
All men 50+. Best \$35 massage.
Great! Nick 552-5059
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smooth Asian. Bpr. 207-2333
Mutual Respect 861-0924

PHYSICAL ATTRACTION
V-handsome Scandinavian Man
weight lifter, friendly.
blond/blue, 6', 185.
Especially like small
Asian & Latin men.
Erotic nude massage.
45 in 55 out **931-3263** Ron 24 hrs

Be Stimulated By The
RAGIN' CAJUN'
Ex-Football Jock Gives
The Massage of a Lifetime
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\$40/\$55



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ROSEBUD MASSAGE
In Sling
By Sensual Dad
Ryke (510) 549-9044

907-4473
HOT BOTTOM
25 y/o, 6'4", 180#, 24 Hrs.

WRESTLING
Dominant Hyvyt—Fantasy
to Reality, Limits
Respected. Eves/Weekends
Call Kolar (415) 245-4528

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Imported 23 yr. Aussie, 5'7"
145 lbs., bld, 8 1/2" uncult,
24Hrs. Sorry No Tweekers
Pgr. 698-0858

BIG BEEFY HUNG JOCK
6'3", 220#, 9" Cut
Muscular College Athlete
Just Grad—Very Straight
\$100/120 267-1592

ENGLISH BOY
Got lots of offer, 5'11"
Drk Brown Hair, Smooth
9" Uncult. Pgr. 698-0977

Cute 21, 5'8", 150, Smooth Cut
Athletic Bld, does what U
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Foot Fetish—All Types of
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BLACK JOCK
Musc. Hardbody, 9 in., U/C Top
Smooth, Gdlnk. 626-6221 \$80

250 lbs, 6ft.
21 inch arms, 53 inch chest.
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Bpr. # 698-2373
Incredible!



MODELS & ESCORTS



COLT MODEL
695-0738

Blond Long Hair Rocker
Smooth, Hung. \$70. 626-3031

SEXY PUERTO RICAN
Tight Swimmer Build
Versatile. 27 Y/O
Out Only. 560-7052 Nelson

YOUNG BOXER
27 y/o, Athlete
5'10", 160#, Br/Bl, 30" O,
24 Hrs. Pager 245-1410

HOTELS
Blond discreet top, bottom
for out only. Toys. No time
limit. Scott 922-2020

20 y/o 180#, Uncult Top Gr
MEXICAN
Call Geraldo 848-3101

Hunky & Hot
Black Body Builder
(415) 487-6319 Jim

Longhaired Dude, 24, 5'10"
150, w/lean build, cut 7", &
sq-cut tanline. Versatile.
Callback req. 824-7497 \$100

ERIC MANCHESTER
24 Hours. \$100 921-1844

HOT RUSSIAN
8" Uncult
pgr. 708-0180 All Scenes \$70



CLAY
998-1934

HOT MOUTH
Attractive • 26 yrs. • Hung
Afternoon &
repeat discounts
JEFF 255-0731
TOTAL WORSHIP

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Write: MassageMates, Dept.. B, P.O. Box 421028, SF, CA 94142

Nude mass by well built man.
41 Dwnwn Mark 398-2441 24hr

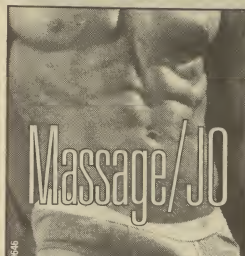
A TOUCH OF CLASS
A RELAXING MASSAGE
by a handsome, masculine blond,
6', 190, beautifully nude
muscular body, summer tan.
Firm, Erotic Swedish Massage
Massage Lotion & Table, Hard to Beat It
\$45/In/\$60 Out 75 mins.
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RELAX
But Get Aroused
Sensual, Erotic
Nude Massage
by 24 y/o Handsome
Muscular Caring Guy
Tomas - 665-7676




People and Personals

MODELS & ESCORTS



Massage/JO

Steve 753-6539



Friendly
Handsome
Clean-cut

5' - 175#
East Bay/5' - Out
KEVIN
510-718-2239



252-UOMO

WHAT'S
ITALIAN
UNCUT
AND
HUNG
NINE
INCHES?



BIG IRISH

bdybldr-big AND tall
handsome dark irish
hung AND hard
not to forget
255-9615 BRAD



KURT 928-6322

**HOT YOUNG STUD
ONE HOT TIME
MARC
266-0800**

24 Hr.S. 23 Yrs. 5'8" 145 lbs.

**FEEL REAL
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BLOND STUD PUP!
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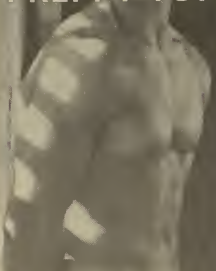
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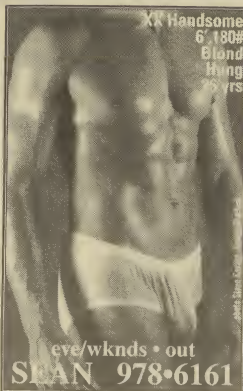
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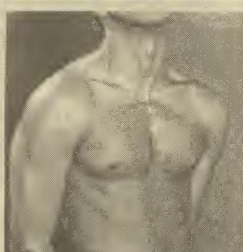
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cut, a real hunk! Boyd
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\$60 Jim 267-1817

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VERY SEXY
MASCULINE
9X6 CUT
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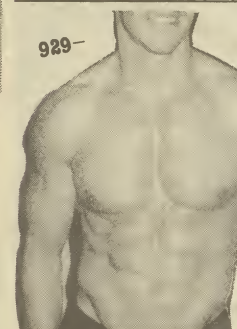
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and handsome.
Bodybuilder
230 lbs.
26 years old
Pgr. 280-2205



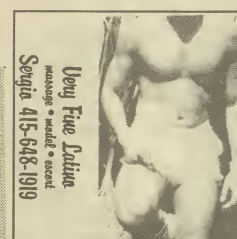
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